

Klibi, Star discuss summit

TUNIS (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi on Monday met Tunisian Prime Minister Rachid Star to discuss prospects for an Arab summit which Morocco suggested should be held in Tunisia, Tunisia's TAP news agency said. They discussed the situation in the Arab World following recent developments as well as "the possibility of holding an Arab summit meeting at the request of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)," TAP said. It was agreed that Mr. Klibi would continue his contacts with Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebbal, TAP added. King Hassan of Morocco has made it known that he was giving up the chairmanship of the Arab summit and had entrusted Mr. Klibi with the responsibility of arranging the next one.

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FJCC thanks Rifai

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has received a cable from the chairman of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce (FJCC), Hamdi Al-Tabbas, expressing the federation's thanks and appreciation for the government's stance and the measures it took recently to support the Jordanian economy. The FJCC board, during a recent meeting in Karak, decided to send this cable to Mr. Rifai.

ACC reschedules farmers' loans

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) rescheduled the repayment of loans extended to farmers in the Kingdom in line with a directive by the Cabinet. Burhan Sharabi, deputy director of the ACC, said the decision covers all farmers who had obtained ACC loans and the rescheduling process is expected to be completed by end of next month. He said the ACC and its affiliated organisations will issue details of the new procedures and loan repayment terms.

Amman to have amusement park

AMMAN (J.T.) — Steps have been taken for setting up a JD 4 million amusement park in Jubeiha. The project, the first of its kind in Jordan, will be built along the lines of Disneyland. The Cabinet on Saturday formed up a higher committee to supervise the project. Jubeiha Mayor Ahmad Abdullah Al-Lawzi said the project, to be built on an area of 62 dunams, will include games, cinemas, restaurants and swimming pools and sports facilities.

Khayyat returns

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat returned home Monday after a visit to Brazil and Puerto Rico at the invitation of religious and societies and centres run by Jordanian and Arab communities there. Dr. Khayyat told Jordan Television in an arrival statement that his trip was aimed at discussing cooperation and coordination between the ministry and these religious centres and societies and ways of supporting their work.

Prince Talal plans to retire

RIYADH (AP) — Saudi Arabia's Prince Talal bin Abdul Aziz is planning to tender his resignation as head of the Arab Gulf Fund for United Nations Development Organisation (AGFUND) when its board of directors meet in Riyadh in October, AGFUND executives said here Monday. Prince Talal, who founded AGFUND five years ago to help U.N. organisations such as the World Health Organisation, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), also served as special envoy for UNICEF. The prince has said publicly that he will resign because he wishes to rest and undergo unspecified medical treatment.

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Carnage in east Beirut

32 killed and 140 injured in carbomb explosion

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A powerful car bomb killed at least 32 people and wounded 140 on Monday when it ripped through rush-hour traffic in a heavily-populated residential street in east Beirut.

Security sources said people were still trapped in buildings set ablaze by the blast, some 500 metres from Beirut's "green line" battlefield, and that the toll was likely to rise.

Police said the explosion resulted from a white Mercedes Benz rigged with 200 kilograms of TNT at 8.28 a.m. parked near an empty cinema.

Three apartment buildings were burned. Chopped-off power cables dangled into the water with which fire engines drowned the street to put down the apartment fires. Some 50 cars were totally devastated by the blast.

The "Voice of Lebanon" radio said 32 people had been killed by the blast, one of the deadliest in a series of explosions to rock east Beirut this year amid worsening political deadlock between Lebanese factions.

Education Minister Selim Al Hosn condemned "this horrible crime committed against civilians

at Ain Al Rummaneh... we hope investigations will expose the criminals responsible for this cowardice," he told reporters.

Christian leaders have accused Syrian agents of planting bombs as a form of pressure on the Christian community following the collapse in January of a Syrian-mediated plan to end 11 years of civil war.

Public Health Minister Joseph Hashem, a Christian, was in tears when he inspected the damage on Monday.

"Words are too weak a vehicle to express the adequate condemnation of such a barbaric crime," he said.

The bomb exploded as Prime Minister Rashid Karani met Lebanese and Syrian army officers to fix a date to extend a security crackdown to predominantly Muslim west Beirut's teeming southern suburbs.

A nagging question mark over the operation was removed last week when the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) militia,

which has strongholds in the suburbs, said it would cooperate with the entry of Lebanese troops backed by Syrian forces.

The area has been one of the most lawless in Lebanon, with recurrent fighting.

A major aim of the operation is to restore inter-Muslim unity and to strengthen a campaign to oust President Amin Gemayel, who rejected the Syrian-mediated plan aimed at introducing reforms favouring Muslims.

Offices of Mr. Gemayel's Falange Party occasionally have been targets in previous east Beirut bombings this year, in which 70 people were killed and hundreds were injured.

Christian political sources said although there were Falange offices in the vicinity of Monday's car bombs, the blast appeared aimed only at causing maximum casualties.

The explosion ripped walls from several buildings and set them and dozens of cars ablaze, turning the street into an inferno of blazing debris, and flying glass and metal shards.

The blast in the shabby "Ain Al Rummaneh" district followed fighting Sunday night across the nearby "green line" between militia forces. Three people were killed and about 40 were wounded

in the clashes.

"It's my aunt, my aunt, we can't find her. We think she is trapped inside one of the buildings," said a teenage girl who ran sobbing between bullet-scarred buildings to seek relatives after the car bomb explosion.

Trapped residents on shattered balconies of multi-storey buildings screamed for help as fire-fighters tried to reach them.

The blast gouged a three-metre wide crater and blew out windows one kilometre away.

Apartment walls were torn off to reveal families cowering in fear. A rescue worker appealed for calm through a megaphone as a huge plume of smoke, visible nine kilometres away, engulfed the buildings.

Many people were rescued later when the flames abated.

Several children were believed to be among the dead and wounded. Lists of names broadcast by radio stations showed half of the injured were women or girls.

The blast was the second in the same spot this year. Two women were killed when a suitcase bomb exploded on Feb. 12.

About 40 people have been killed so far this year in 11 reported explosions in Christian areas of Beirut and its suburbs.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai confers at his office on Monday with Soviet Foreign Ministry official Victor Posuvalouk (to Mr. Rifai's left) in a meeting attended by Acting Foreign Minister and Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Thawqan Hladawi,

Soviet Ambassador Alexander Zinchuk (to Mr. Posuvalouk's left) and Soviet embassy First Secretary Serge Kirpichenko (to Mr. Zinchuk's left).

Rifai confers with Soviet official

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai conferred in his office on Monday with the deputy director of the Middle East and North Africa desk at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Victor Posuvalouk.

Mr. Rifai reviewed with Mr. Posuvalouk Jordanian-Soviet relations and means of promoting bilateral cooperation, and exchanged views on issues of

common interest to Jordan and Soviet Union, with particular attention to the Middle East and current efforts being exerted by Jordan to find a just and durable solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict within the framework of an international conference.

The Soviet official is currently visiting Jordan as part of Moscow's coordination with

friendly countries on issues expected to come up during the forthcoming session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Mr. Rifai's meeting with Mr. Posuvalouk was attended by Acting Foreign Minister Thawqan Hladawi, Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk and Soviet embassy First Secretary Serge Kirpichenko.

Top Soviet aide meets Shultz for talks on new summit

WASHINGTON (R) — A top Soviet official on Monday began talks with Secretary of State George Shultz which are expected to move the superpowers closer to an agreement on a date for a summit later this year.

The official, Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Besmertnykh, declined to answer reporters' questions when he arrived at the State Department with other Soviet officials. "First we must talk with the secretary," he said.

Mr. Besmertnykh's talks came as Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said in a Vladivostok speech that he favoured a second summit meeting with President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Gorbachev said the two governments had agreed at last November's summit in Geneva to strive for normalisation of relations, improvement of the international situation and a speed-up of arms control talks.

"A new summit, too, is called upon to promote that," he said (See page 8).

Mr. Reagan presented his latest arms control views in a letter to Mr. Gorbachev delivered over the weekend.

An administration source said Mr. Reagan's letter expressed readiness to discuss the key issue of space-based missile defence systems.

But the letter, according to news reports, contains a U.S. offer to delay deployment of the space-based system for seven years in exchange for 50 per cent cuts in nuclear missiles and acceptance of missile defence at the end of this period.

The letter responded to sweeping arms control proposals advanced by Mr. Gorbachev in June, U.S. officials said.

The Soviet leader had called for a 15-year commitment to the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty in return for a 30 per cent reduction in nuclear missiles.

Shamir says he favours autonomy

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir was quoted on Monday as saying he favoured implementation of a plan for Palestinian "autonomy" even if it led to the creation of a Palestinian state.

In an interview in the monthly Monitor to be published on Tuesday, Mr. Shamir said Israel must seek to implement the Palestinian "autonomy" plan according to the 1978 U.S.-sponsored Camp David accords between Israel and Egypt.

Iraq vows continued raids on targets inside Iran

BAGHDAD (AP) — The commander of Iraq's air force on Monday vowed that his units would carry on daily bombing of Iranian military and war-related economic targets until Iran "is brought to its knees."

The threat by Lieutenant-General Hamid Shaaban in an interview with the state-run newspaper Al Thawra was the strongest by an Iraqi official in recent months. It capped a week of sustained Iraqi bombing of Iran's heartland and Iranian threats of retaliation.

Accusations by both sides of bombing civilian areas have heightened fears of a renewal of the "war of the cities," in which the two powers raided each other's cities for three months last year.

Iraqi warplanes, meantime, struck a "large maritime target" near Iran's Gulf coast on Monday, according to a military spokesman (See page 2).

Gen. Shaaban told Al Thawra that Iraqi warplanes would

"destroy all Iranian installations."

The air force will "always choose the targets, whether industrial or economical, that harm the Iranian regime and destroy it because it persists on aggression and sponsors dreams of territorial expansion."

"Iran will have to bear a lot of pressure in the coming days," Gen. Shaaban told the newspaper of the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party. "Iraq will deprive the Iranian regime of any resource it tries to employ in the aggression until it (Iran) is brought to its knees. The Iraqi air force will carry on daily destruction of all that the Iranian regime tries to exploit in serving its aggression against Iraq."

Those attacks would present "knock-out strikes" against Iran's military operations, he said. Iraq said its warplanes since Wednesday attacked oil installations, factories and military camps deep in Iran, as well as troop positions along the 1,180-kilometre warfront.

Howe strikes a pessimistic note in S. African mission

PRETORIA (Agencies) — British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said Monday he remained unsure whether the South African government had the courage to start black-white peace negotiations.

Mr. Howe said the South African people "passionately want to see change brought about by peaceful means, by persuasion and dialogue... the key is really in the hands of the South African government."

Meanwhile, the government bureau for information said eight blacks were killed in violence on Sunday. Seven died in the eastern Cape Province — five of them burned or shot to death by other blacks.

Mr. Howe, who has been on a week-long visit to various countries of southern Africa on behalf of the European Community, met on Monday chief ministers of two black homelands recognised as "independent" by Pretoria but by no other

government. He heard their arguments against the West imposing economic sanctions on South Africa.

"Short of an armed invasion by the major powers, the state of siege could continue for perhaps decades, accompanied by deepening misery and the destruction of South Africa's hopes for future prosperity for all," said Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthe, leader of the KwaZulu homeland.

There was little sign that the white-dominated Pretoria government was any closer to accepting Mr. Howe's central demands for the release of jailed nationalist leader Nelson Mandela and the legalisation of the African National Congress (ANC) and other opposition groups.

Mr. Howe will have a final meeting with President Botha on Tuesday before returning to London.

W.Bank Palestinians split over meeting with U.S. vice-president

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinian leaders in the Israeli-occupied West Bank on Monday split at least three ways on whether to accept an invitation to meet visiting U.S. Vice-President George Bush.

Mr. Bush, on the first leg of a three-nation Middle East tour, has invited close to 25 Palestinian notables from the West Bank and Gaza Strip to meet him at a special reception on Tuesday.

Hardline supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said they were trying to organise a boycott of the meeting. U.S. officials have refused to disclose the guest list.

Diplomatic sources quoted by Reuters said the boycott call could scare off some "moderate" guests who feared being branded "traitors to the Palestinian cause."

Some others are arguing the Palestinian cause would be best served by attending the meeting to present complaints against U.S. Middle East policies to Mr. Bush.

Some others say they wish to attend without protesting against U.S. policies.

The divisions reflected the multiple tendencies among local Palestinians, a major obstacle to any negotiations with Israel.

Former Hebron Mayor Mustapha Natche said he believed there would be a successful boycott. Two or three delegates would be sent to present Mr. Bush

people."

Newspaper editor-politician Hannah Shniara said he would attend to tell Mr. Bush "the U.S. must change its policy and accept Palestinian rights to self-determination."

Bethlehem Mayor Elias Friej challenged the boycott, saying he could not accept orders from "people who have unilaterally appointed themselves representatives of the PLO. I would not go if (PLO leader) Yasser Arafat told me to stay away but that is not the case."

As usual during disputes among local leaders, all sides said they were supported by a majority in the local population, a claim impossible to verify in the absence of opinion polls.

In Moscow, the official TASS news agency said Mr. Bush's trip to the Mideast will deepen differences in the Arab World and heighten tensions in the region.

TASS charged that contrary to American claims, the trip was not an attempt at helping establish peace in the region.

"The aim of the trip is to consolidate U.S. positions in an area where anti-American sentiments are on the rise, (and) to deepen differences in the Arab camp," the agency said.

TASS said no "positive results" can come from the trip without a fundamental change in Israeli policies.

One figure behind the boycott proposal, Faisal Hussein, said those who met Mr. Bush would "show they were not representative of the Palestinian

with a memorandum condemning attempts to bypass the PLO in Middle East peace moves, he told Reuters.

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Peres receives 'positive' Egyptian message

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres received a positive message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Monday, amid reports that the prolonged Taba border negotiations were nearing an end.

Mr. Peres' spokesman Uri Savir said Mr. Mubarak sent the verbal message with Egyptian journalist Anis Mansour, who had previously arranged to interview the Israeli leader.

Mansour, a confidant of Mr. Mubarak, told reporters after seeing Mr. Peres that he expected a summit meeting soon between the Israeli and Egyptian leaders.

The English-language Jerusalem Post reported that Mr. Peres and Mr. Mubarak may meet in 10 days to sign, in the presence of U.S. Vice-President George Bush, an agreement on the Taba border dispute.

Aides doubt Taba accord possible during Bush visit

TEL AVIV (R) — U.S. officials accompanying Vice-President George Bush on Monday sought to dampen speculation of possible diplomatic breakthroughs as a result of his 10-day swing through Israel, Jordan and Egypt.

They dismissed a Jerusalem Post report that a summit meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to sign an arbitration accord on the Taba border dispute could coincide with Mr. Bush's visit to Cairo next week.

"We have no indication there will be a summit or signing on Taba," a senior Bush aide told reporters in reference to the disputed area in the Sinai.

The aide expressed hope a U.S. mediation effort could yet produce an arbitration accord before Mr. Bush leaves Cairo on Aug. 5, but said such an outcome was far from certain.

Another U.S. official questioned whether a Peres-Mubarak meeting would serve Mr. Mubarak's domestic political interests.

The Egyptian leader on Monday sent what Israeli officials

called a positive oral message to Mr. Peres through visiting Cairo journalist Anis Mansour. Its contents were not disclosed.

The officials all but ruled out a rumoured Bush visit to Morocco to follow up last week's talks between Mr. Peres and King Hassan.

Washington has warmly praised the Hassan-Peres talks as a step forward in the search for an Arab-Israeli peace settlement and Mr. Bush had said he was willing to add a Moroccan stop to his itinerary if it would promote peace.

Vice-presidential aides said the subject would be high on the agenda for Mr. Bush's meeting with Mr. Peres on Wednesday, but that a visit to Morocco was probably premature.

"So far we've gotten no expression of interest on Morocco's part," one official told reporters.

Mr. Bush took a day off from diplomacy for a walking tour of the Old City of Jerusalem, pursued by a personal film crew seeking footage for an expected 1988 U.S. presidential bid.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Upper House to convene Wednesday

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) will hold its first extraordinary session on Wednesday morning to study and refer a number of draft laws to the house's specialised committees. The meeting will discuss the Lower House of Parliament's earlier endorsement of an amendment to the 1985 law on higher education, the 1986 draft law on the Jordan University for Technology and Sciences and an agreement on oil exploration between the Natural Resources Authority and the American firm AMOCO. The three draft laws were approved by the Lower House on Thursday.

Keyed orders traffic study

AMMAN (J.T.) — A comprehensive survey to study traffic congestion inside the capital and the downtown area of Amman has been ordered by Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed, who also chairs the central traffic committee. Mr. Kayed said the study should focus on certain sections of roads and he expressed hope that by completing the study solutions would be put forward to deal with traffic jams in Amman.

AMPCO obtains JD 1.5m loan

AMMAN (Petra) — A JD 1.5 million loan agreement was signed Monday between the Agricultural, Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) and the Jordanian-Syrian Bank. The loan will be used to settle overdue payments to farmers who have handed in their products to AMPCO. The agreement was signed between AMPCO Director General Ghazi Abu Hassan and the bank's director general, Mr. Hisham Al Safadi.

Municipality opens second market

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Municipality Monday inaugurated the second fruit and vegetable market in Amman under the name "the Monday market." The market, to open in the Abdali area every Monday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. will sell fruits, vegetables, dairy products, nuts and detergents directly from the producer to the consumer. The Amman Municipality's first project was the Thursday market, opened last June at the Fourth Circle. Fruits and vegetables at both markets are sold in one kilogramme packages.

Foundation to hold charity concert

AMMAN (J.T.) — A charity concert will be held at the Roman Amphitheatre in Amman on Thursday evening under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Bin Al Hussein. The concert has been organised by the Cerebral Palsy Foundation and the proceeds will benefit the activities and programmes of a new centre for the treatment of the cerebral palsy patients in Amman.

Friends plan trip to Shobak, Petra

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Friends of Archaeology have organised an overnight trip to Shobak and to Edomite sites near Petra. The trip will be on Thursday/Friday July 31 - Aug. 1.



Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi Monday meets with a delegation of Pakistani parliamentarians for discussions on Mideast issues (Petra photo)

Higher council takes steps to cut farmers' marketing, packing costs

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Higher Agricultural Council Monday discussed prospects of setting up a bank for renting fruit and vegetable containers in a bid to lower marketing costs for farmers through leasing containers.

The bank will also unify the containers according to the product's quality, type and grade in order to guide consumers and to protect the container's contents.

The council, which was presided over by Agriculture Minister Ahmad Dakqan, also decided to rewrite the draft law governing the establishment of the Jordan Agricultural Marketing Company (JAMC) to upgrade and develop agricultural marketing in Jordan. After the draft law is rewritten, it has to be passed by both the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament before it is enacted by Royal Decree.

The JAMC, according to the

law, will also work on minimising agricultural production costs through upgrading the efficiency of all parties dealing with the agricultural marketing.

The company will only deal with organising marketing outlets in Jordan and abroad while the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) will continue to act as a purchasing body buying produce from farmers at fixed prices.

JAMC, according to the draft law, will be a public corporation entrusted with developing and organising the marketing of agricultural produce. It will also be responsible for issuing marketing licences, fixing standards and specifications for agricultural output and licensing agricultural middle men.

The corporation will also draw up marketing policies and supervise their implementation in cooperation with the concerned ministries and departments. The draft law also organises the circulation of fruit and vegetable containers by taking the necessary

steps to make containers available to farmers at cheap prices and to support the establishment of marketing councils.

The law also calls on JAMC to carry out feasibility studies and marketing researches for both the local and export markets in an effort to develop the marketing of agricultural products.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, the council's chairman, did not attend Monday's session. The council, which met at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office, also decided that the Ministry of Agriculture's recent study on the problems of marketing Jordanian agricultural products and means of alleviating them should be referred to the JAMC, which will implement the recommendations as soon as it is founded.

The council also reviewed all recommendations and decisions passed by the council's previous meeting and agreed to postpone the issue of encouraging agricultural exports until their next session.

Fayez outlines Jordan's efforts to unify Arab countries, achieve just Mideast peace

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi Monday said that His Majesty King Hussein is currently exerting continuing efforts to heal Arab rifts and to re-establish Arab solidarity in order to achieve pan-Arab goals and to enable the Arab Nation to confront the challenges it faces.

Speaking during a meeting with a visiting Pakistani parliamentary delegation, he added that the Palestinian cause is the crux of the conflict in the Middle East and appealed to all countries to do all within their capacities to find a just and comprehensive solution to the problem.

The solution to the Palestinian problem could be achieved through the land for peace formula and through the implementation of international resolutions especially, U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, Mr. Lawzi said. He also called for the intensification of joint efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war and added that prolonging this war would enable foreign powers to interfere in the region's affairs.

The Upper House speaker stressed the historical relations between Jordan and Pakistan and pointed out the importance of further bolstering and strengthening bilateral cooperation between the two

countries.

Parliament in Jordan

Mr. Lawzi also briefed the delegation on the development of Parliament in Jordan, its constitutional and legal bases as well as its responsibilities towards the Jordanian people and the Kingdom.

Deputy Speaker of the Pakistani National Assembly Sarder Ahmad Jujay, who is heading the visiting Pakistani delegation, said that his country is following up with concern the current developments in the Middle East in general and those in the Arab arena in particular. He added that Pakistan maintains good relations with Jordan and Arab countries and that Pakistan, through various international fora supports the rights of the Palestinian people in regaining their land and ending Israeli encroachment on Arab territories.

Mr. Jujay also made reference to the deep and strong ties linking

Jordan with Pakistan which, he said, are developing to achieve the interests of the two peoples. He also added that Pakistan is making serious contributions to end the Iran-Iraq war and called for an intensification of efforts to put an end to the conflict.

The meeting was attended by the deputy speaker of the Upper House, a number of senators, the first deputy speaker of the Lower House of Parliament as well as Parliament's secretary general.

Delegation meet foreign affairs committee

Earlier Monday the Pakistani parliamentary delegation met with members of the Lower House of Parliament's foreign relations committee to discuss parliamentary issues. Members of the visiting delegation outlined areas where parliamentarians from Jordan and Pakistan can work together for common benefits.

The delegation voiced appreciation to Jordan and its Parliament for efforts being made to end differences among Arab countries.

Apart from members of the foreign relations committee members, the meeting was attended by the House's Deputy Speaker Ismail Hijazi and the House's Secretary General Hani Kheir.

Hamzeh opens symposium on dangers of insecticides

AMMAN (Petra) — A symposium on occupational health began Monday at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office to discuss the dangers of misusing insecticides. The symposium has been organised by the Ministry of Health in cooperation with the Arab Health Ministers Council.

Addressing the opening of the seminar, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said that his ministry is attaching great interest in promoting health awareness as one of the pillars of primary health care. Dr. Hamzeh cautioned against the dangers of misusing insecticides and the impact this could have on health.

Dr. Farouq Al Jarbi from the Arab Health Ministers Council noted that health ministries in many countries will encourage insect combating programmes in an effort to control many diseases and that this will lead to an increasing use of insecticides. Dr. Jarbi called for restudying techniques of using insecticides and stressed the need to provide occupational health services in Arab countries.

The three-day seminar is discussing working papers on insecticides, dangers in the use of insecticides as well as means of limiting these dangers. Taking part in the seminar are representatives of health ministries in the East Mediterranean region in addition to experts from Egypt, Iraq, Sudan and Jordan.

Fayez briefs British deputies on current Mideast situation

AMMAN (Petra) — A British Parliamentary Delegation, currently on a fact-finding visit to Jordan, Monday met with Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayez who spoke about the situation in the occupied Arab territories. Mr. Fayez outlined to the British parliamentarians Israel's drive to Judaize Arab lands and to evict Arab inhabitants from their homeland. The best and most feasible initiative for a just solution, he said, is an international conference, to be attended by all parties involved in the Middle East conflict.

Mr. Fayez also commended the strong relations between the United Kingdom and Jordan and expressed hope that this unique relationship would induce Britain to play a more active role in the search for a just solution to the Palestine problem.

Earlier Monday, the British Parliamentary Delegation held a meeting with Foreign Ministry Secretary General Tayseer Touqan. The two sides reviewed Middle East developments and means of reviving efforts to find a just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict through an international conference to be attended by all parties concerned in the conflict. Addressing the delegation, Mr. Touqan pointed out Jordan's efforts for achieving peace and underlined the importance of a British role within the European Community to help find a just solution to the problem.

He also explained Jordan's drive to end differences among Arab countries and the efforts being made to re-establish Arab solidarity. The meeting was attended by Foreign Ministry officials.

Accidents claim four lives

AMMAN (J.T.) — Four people died and seven others were injured in separate accidents throughout the Kingdom over the weekend, police sources said Monday. In one accident, an Egyptian, Mansour Amoth, 35, drowned while swimming in the East Ghor canal. Police squads removed the body and took it to Maaz Ibn Jabal Hospital in Shuneh.

In Karak, two people died and four others were badly injured after a car, driven by H.M., overturned while speeding. Two children aged 7 and 12 years died in the accident and were taken to the governorate hospital. The

other four who were injured in the accident were also taken to hospital.

In Jerash, a West German citizen fell down dead while walking. Klaus Tord, 24, felt dizzy while walking and his companion Mohammad Issa took him to Al Bashir Hospital where he was pronounced dead upon arrival. According to preliminary investigations, Mr. Tord died from dehydration and a mild stroke, hospital sources said. He was expected to be taken to West Germany on Tuesday for burial. In Sweileh, three citizens were slightly injured in a car accident between two vehicles.

IM gives handicapped children a chance to learn and develop

By Sama Atiyeh

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "Every child can learn" is the motto of the Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief (IM), located in Sweileh and which has provided new opportunities in education, training and care for handicapped children and youth. There are ten countries in which the organisation operates but the largest station is in Jordan, offering facilities to 150 mentally retarded children, the majority severely retarded, and the staff here consists of 105 people.

When IM first opened in Jordan in 1968 in Shmeisani, there were no other institutions, nor were there any local, experienced personnel available, according to the director of IM in Jordan, Mr. Angelo Jayakoddy. He told the Jordan Times that the "Swedish Home" here consists of a carehome with boarding and training, a pre-school, a special school, a vocational training centre and a sheltered workshop. "Sixty severely retarded children are offered residential care and training and ten mentally retarded, multi-handicapped orphans in their late teens and early twenties have found a home at the Carehome, after spending a

major part of their life with IM," said Mr. Jayakoddy, who added that the normal age for the Carehome children is between three to ten years, but these orphans were taken in as they had no other homes to go to.

He went on to say that the children have individual training programmes, based on their needs and requirements. He said that the training programmes — which include primary ADL-training (activities of daily living), such as eating, toilet and hygiene training, as well as contact and sensory training, the act of crawling and various forms of mobility including walk-training — are a result of observations and evaluations of their needs carried out by a team consisting of special teachers, physiotherapists, a staff nurse and a social worker.

Involving the families

Mr. Jayakoddy said: "Although boarding at the Carehome, with training periods of six to twelve months, implies separation from the family, parents are encouraged and expected to take their children home for the weekends, and if they live far away, home visits are encouraged fortnightly. The establishment of firm emotional relationships between children and their

parents is very important for the future progress of children when their period of training at the Carehome ends. In fact, parents are advised to visit the Carehome and study training methods used by our staff in order to continue with these at home."

As for the pre-school, there are groups of seven to eight children in each group between the ages of four to seven, who attend pre-school activities twice a week. It includes training in elementary skills, such as eating, hygiene and dressing, as well as physiotherapy treatment. Mr. Jayakoddy said that transportation is provided by IM, enabling the children to live with their families and at home.

Children with severe mental retardation and multi-handicaps, who are between the ages of seven to 18 years from the Carehome and external students with similar disabilities, attend a special training school daily, said Mr. Jayakoddy. "Each child has an individual programme to suit both the educational level and mental age of the child. And considering that many of these children are multi-handicapped, the use of physiotherapy and physical exercise plays a role in the curriculum," he said. For example, the successful implementation of balance training and body awareness is achieved through the simple use of riding their donkey, an activity very popular among all the children.

Special school

The activities and training at the special school are supervised by two teachers for the children between the ages of nine and 12 years. The director of IM said that the activities centre around sensory — motor exercises, communication skills, reading, writing, arithmetic, expressive art and activities of daily living — all of which are adapted to very practical levels. "The acquisition of experience plays a vital role, so there are visits to places of interest or educational benefit, such places as police stations, post offices, banks, the airport, shops, Jerash, the Dead Sea, and so on," said Mr. Jayakoddy.

The goals of the special school, he continued, are to train the children to lead as far as is possible, a normal life in their own society with a knowledge of day-to-day facts and later on as adults to cope with the basic essentials of life, despite their handicaps.

Vocational training

As a follow-up programme for



Children from the IM Carehome take part in a sports for the handicapped event at the Sports City.



The Carehome building run by the Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief

children from the special school, at the age of sixteen the vocational training centre offers continued use and training in school curricula, said the director. Emphasis is placed on learning table manners, personal hygiene and general behaviour in the presence of visitors and this has evidently been a successful programme as the children were very well-behaved indeed. He added that students also participate in training courses in woodwork, carpentry, handicrafts, weaving, embroidery, housekeeping and cooking. "The products from the vocational training centre are put on sale at an annual bazaar, which gives satisfaction to the children as they find the results of their work appreciated," he said.

Sheltered workshop

The sheltered workshop, the only of its kind in Jordan, provides youngsters from the vocational

training centre with work and they are given a small sum of monthly income, said Mr. Jayakoddy. The young men and women at the workshop work with pottery, woodwork, and produce furniture on private orders. "The goals of the workshop are to give them a sense of responsibility in the duties entrusted to them and to train the youngsters to experience realistic working conditions in the hope and belief that one day they could take their rightful place in the open labour market," said Mr. Jayakoddy.

He said the organisation cannot send them away after that stage because there is a lack of workshops for such youngsters in Jordan. "They would have nowhere to go to keep up with their skills. It is very important that they keep working, otherwise they will forget everything they were taught and would have to start from zero all over again," he said.



An orphaned, blind and mentally retarded girl, Amira, is cared for at the IM Carehome.

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Undeserved reward

WE deeply regret the decision last week by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to defer the question of admitting Israel to the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) until next year's ECOSOC session. During the ECOSOC meetings United States spokesman James Ferrer noted that Israel is the only member of the U.N. that does not belong to one of the U.N.'s five regional economic commissions, and asserted that ECOSOC "has a moral obligation and an operational need to act on Israel's right to adhere to an economic commission." He also argued that Israel was currently being denied its rights within the U.N. system, claiming that "this violation goes to the very heart of the moral courage of the United Nations."

We disagree with this assessment of the Israeli predicament within the U.N., and strongly oppose the American suggestion that the situation be remedied by admitting Israel to the ECE.

To begin with, the very creation of the state of Israel in the land of Palestine by the United Nations in 1947 was nearly a death blow to the so-called "moral courage" of that fledgling international organisation. And few nations have done so much since that time to undermine the effective authority of the U.N. as the state of Israel. For though Israel owed its very existence to that international body, Jewish terrorists conspired to reward the creator of the Jewish state by assassinating in 1948 the first U.N. representative to Jerusalem, Count Folke Bernadotte, who had been appointed as a sort of midwife for the birth of Israel. And in the nearly 40 years following that crime against the international community, Israel has seldom treated U.N. representatives, missions and peacekeeping forces with anything more than contempt and as obstacles to its plans for aggressive expansion. Israel has violated countless U.N.-negotiated ceasefires, thwarted numerous U.N.-sponsored peace plans and ignored dozens of U.N. Security Council resolutions. Most of these assaults on the will of the international community have faded from the headlines, but world attention was briefly focused last week on Security Council Resolution 425, calling for the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from South Lebanon, when the mandate of the UNIFIL peacekeeping troops in Lebanon was extended for another six months. Having laboured so purposefully to destroy the moral courage of the U.N., Israel has little right to call on the U.N. to exercise on its behalf what little remains of that precious commodity.

Furthermore, for the U.N. to accede to the American and Israeli demand would not be an act of moral courage but merely a capitulation to militant intransigence. The attempts of the Jewish state to join the ECE, as part of its ongoing effort to integrate itself into the European Community, indicate that it is fully prepared to live in a state of permanent isolation and perpetual aggression in the Arab region. The acceptance of Israel into the ECE would constitute an undeserved reward for these aggressive Zionist policies, and would only strengthen the militant Israeli hand in the Middle East.

If the United Nations is ever to regain the moral courage and authority which could make it the effective arbiter of international disputes, it should start where it began, and do everything possible to halt and reverse the effects of Israeli aggression and intransigence. Keeping Israel out of the ECE will send the leaders of the Jewish state the important message that rights in the international community are gained through the fulfillment of obligations, the foremost of which is the establishment and maintenance of peaceful relations with one's neighbours.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Foiling enemy plans

KING Hussein's visit to Damascus assumed significance as it came amid serious developments in the light of Shimon Peres' visit to Morocco and its serious repercussions and consequences. The King's talks with President Assad no doubt covered this important issue and means for enabling the Arab Nation to confront the Zionist conspiracies and continued Israeli occupation of Arab land. The visit, which entails the idea of a separate dealing with the common enemy, poses a serious danger to the Arab countries, and the two leaders are perhaps more concerned than others in confronting this danger as their countries stand in direct confrontation with Israel. We have no alternative but to stand together, and to build solidarity among Arab countries. We ought to work hard to prevent further breaches in Arab ranks for protecting our rights and our interests. The Arabs should do all they can to prevent such unilateral deals and adventures or any moves that might harm the Arab cause. The visit of Shimon Peres to Morocco calls for concerted efforts on the part of Amman, Damascus and Baghdad for the sake of confronting this international conspiracy and for the sake of safeguarding the nation's interests.

Al Dustour: Facing external threats

ONLY one week after the Ifrane meeting between King Hassan and the prime minister of Israel, Arab countries began to hear increased threats by the Iranian enemy, and to see more and more attacks by rebel forces in southern Sudan. All of a sudden various parts of this big nation has become exposed to divisions and attacks from hostile forces. Had there been unity of action and concerted efforts on the part of the Arab countries, and had the Arab leaders not shirked their responsibilities towards their nation, these hostile forces could not have mobilised themselves against the Arabs. Our divisions and weakness are tempting our enemies to launch attacks on us and to continue to defy our rights and our dignity and to commit crimes against us. In the face of all of this, King Hussein is sparing no moment in rallying the Arabs and encouraging them to mobilise their resources and their efforts and unifying their ranks for the sake of confronting the common challenges. There should be no difference of views over the need to end the Gulf war and save the Arab power for safeguarding the Arab Nation's interests.

Sawt Al Shaab: Divided we remain

DEVELOPMENTS in the Arab region and around it are continuing all the time, but are taking a rather negative tendency with regard to Arab interests. Each development leads to another, and none has been carrying elements for optimism. The Ifrane summit between King Hassan and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres has led the king to abandon his responsibilities as chairman of the Arab League's council, and his call for holding an Arab summit meeting which the Arabs had hoped would save them from many of their ills and problems. In the eastern flank of the Arab World, the Iranians continue to issue threats to the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, and the Arabs are not able to fend off this danger nor are they willing to stand behind Iraq to repel aggression. Differences in views within the Israeli coalition and between leading politicians in Israel continue, but our enemy continues to come to agreement on issues of national interests and when it comes to dealing with the Arab countries. In contrast, Arab countries, though they have the same interests, continue to differ in view and never reconcile when it comes to dealing with their national interests.

In interview with Le Figaro Crown Prince warns against U.S.-Israeli alliance

By Claude Lorieux

Mr. Lorieux is diplomatic correspondent of the French newspaper Le Figaro. He visited Jordan recently and interviewed His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The following is an unofficial translation of the interview which was published in the July 2 issue of Le Figaro.

AMMAN — Four months before the change of the prime minister at the head of the "government of national unity" in Israel, Jordan is, on top of all, concerned with the "strategic alliance" under way between the United States and the Jewish state.

"If the American jet fighters that bombed Libya did not take off from British air bases but instead utilised Israeli installations, the United States would have totally destroyed its credibility in the region. However, the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel has been confirmed so often to the extent that the prospects for perceiving Israel as an integral part of the Middle East region have become totally unacceptable," declared Prince Hassan, brother and the closest advisor of King Hussein.

The Crown Prince, who is appointed as Regent when the sovereign is abroad, received me in a functional office, decorated by posters of Jewish settlements in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and portraits of the young Hashemite Kingdom; his grandfather, father and brother: Abdullah, Talal and Hussein.

The Prince is careful in his predictions on how the ongoing debate on the strategic alliance project would evolve in Israel. He regrets "the insistence of U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defence Richard Perle and the American right in general to project Israel as a strategic success in a possible confrontation with the Soviet Union."

"What worried us the most," the Prince said, "is the free (Israeli-American) exchange as well as coordination in the production of high-technology arms. It's an attempt to make Israel a sort of supportive member of the European Community (EC)." He added that "all these attempts are further isolating Israel from our region and pushing it more and more towards a sort of Occidental alliance."

The Prince, moreover, deplored the American view of the Middle East based on bilateral relations and its obsession with one subject: terrorism. "For many years now, my country has taken a firm stand

vis-à-vis terrorism, from which it had suffered," he said.

"The real problem is that the United States no more has a regional vision of issues that concern us; it is turning more and more towards the Pacific region; it focuses on American-Japanese relations, rendering the East Mediterranean and the Middle East a relative backwater."

Replying to a question whether he believed that there would be a reaction by the Arab youth to a situation that appears to be completely blocked, the Crown

Prince underlined ideological developments of liberation movements which preach direct action, and the ideological programmes of the Islamic, Jewish and Christian right — "all active in the region, and which advocate noncompromising ideas and noncompromising action, and shut the door to dialogue."

"The youth are sensitive to the question of liberation and are calling for the liberation of the occupied territories and the liberation of traditional political regimes as well as their own

inferior social status. Their frustration will naturally increase the risks of violence," he said.

The situation in the Arab World as a whole has been, to a varying extent, preoccupying leaders in the region, the Jordanians in particular. "I believe," the Prince said, "that we have reached the moment of truth in regard to the Gulf war as well as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: Our collective identity is threatened."

Evoking in this context the

motivations behind a recent Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement, Prince Hassan expressed fear that the surfacing in Lebanon of "an ethnic and religious mosaic would consequently make the Israelis the *primus inter pares* of minorities in the region. The balkanisation of Lebanon would evidently affect the Arab identity and I believe the Syrians are very conscious of this fact."

Reviewing the common political will provoked by the

Great Arab Revolt, the Prince said that today, "the common denominator between countries of the region hardly have anything to do with the national identity."

Reviewing the alliances and conversions of the hour, the Prince said: "What is there in common between Maronites and Palestinians? Between Shi'ites and Syrians? Between Druze and Israelis? Between Druze and Syrians? All these contradictions diminish the collective will of Arabs."

This evolution, he continued, "overshadows our political objectives in the midst of an ethnic, religious and chauvinist equation which will be translated into a balkanisation of the region. And as they said in the past, Balkanisation produces mediocre politicians."

Asked whether, in this hardly encouraging context, the Arab League can function at two levels, the Prince said: "Yes, provided these two speeds go in the same direction."

In reply to a question by Le Figaro on what he thought of a Marshall plan for the Middle East proposed by Israeli Premier Shimon Peres, Prince Hassan said: "It was not Peres who proposed the Marshall plan. We have talked about it since the early seventies. It is ironic to see Peres making reference to economic factors in the region while Israel has never sought to integrate."

In addition, I think that utilising such a provocative word as Marshall plan, we risk to invoke exactly the contrary of what is desired. Consequently, this is what will happen: the countries and people of the region — particularly the youth — will be exploited by the extreme right, as well as the extreme left who are getting more and more active. And what are they going to say? They will say that the industrialised countries of the North are seeking a superficial and temporary economic solution for unresolved political problems."

Prince Hassan described as "a realistic attitude" the European Community's position on the Middle East calling for an agreement on a negotiating formula by countries directly involved in the region. However, he added, "European countries should go beyond their bilateral relations established with groupings of Arab states during the boom in oil prices and make progress with all countries in the region towards envisaging a viable regional perspective."

Dans une interview exclusive au « Figaro » le prince Hassan de Jordanie déclare :

« La frustration des jeunes accroît les risques de violences »

Principal collaborateur de son frère le roi Hussein, il redoute l'alignement stratégique croissant d'Israël sur les États-Unis et la balkanisation des pays du Proche-Orient arabe.

AMMAN :
 de notre envoyé spécial
 Claude LORIEUX

« Cinq mois du changement de premier ministre à la tête du « gouvernement d'unité nationale » en Israël, la Jordanie s'agitte de plus en plus. L'alignement stratégique croissant d'Israël sur les États-Unis et la balkanisation des pays du Proche-Orient arabe, le prince héritier de Jordanie, le prince Hassan, nous a confié ses inquiétudes. Il nous a aussi parlé de la situation en Israël, de la situation en Libye, de la situation en Iran, de la situation en Arabie saoudite, de la situation en Égypte, de la situation en Syrie, de la situation en Irak, de la situation en Turquie, de la situation en Grèce, de la situation en Espagne, de la situation en France, de la situation en Italie, de la situation en Allemagne, de la situation en Belgique, de la situation en Pays-Bas, de la situation en Suisse, de la situation en Autriche, de la situation en Espagne, de la situation en Portugal, de la situation en Irlande, de la situation en Royaume-Uni, de la situation en France, de la situation en Italie, de la situation en Allemagne, de la situation en Belgique, de la situation en Pays-Bas, de la situation en Suisse, de la situation en Autriche, de la situation en Espagne, de la situation en Portugal, de la situation en Irlande, de la situation en Royaume-Uni, de la situation en France, de la situation en Italie, de la situation en 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Scholars debate historical links between southern Ghor settlements and the biblical Cities of the Plain

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

The following article is the eighth in a series of articles on the archaeology of the southern Ghors. Four articles of the series appeared in last week's Jordan Times, three in the past three days, while the last is scheduled to appear tomorrow.

IN most people's minds, the names "Sodom and Gomorrah" evoke visions of a wickedness that the Lord punished by a fiery destruction of these two infamous biblical cities.

Have Sodom and Gomorrah been identified in south Jordan? Perhaps.

The Genesis 19 passage recounts: "Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven. And he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. But Lot's wife behind him looked back, and she became a pillar of salt. And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the valley, and behold, and lo, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace."

Sodom and Gomorrah are thought to have been two of the "Cities of the Plain," mentioned in this and other biblical accounts in the book of Genesis.

One of the fascinating sidelights of the work that Drs. Walter Rast and Tom Schaub have directed in the Southern Ghors during the past 14 years has been a revival of the scholarly debate about the location and date of the Cities of the Plain.

For the past 200 years, archaeologists, historians and biblical scholars have hotly debated all possible aspects of the five Cities of the Plain: Were they actually five cities? Where were they located? In which historical period did they exist? Indeed, did they exist at all, or are they simply an ancient Semitic legend or folk-tale that was preserved in the literary evidence of the Bible?

When they conducted their survey of the south-eastern shores of the Dead Sea in 1973, Drs. Rast and Schaub knew of the Early

Bronze Age walled town of Bab edh-Dhra', which had existed during most of the 3rd Millennium B.C. When they finished their survey, they had identified at least five Early Bronze Age settlements, all of which dated from around 3000-2350 B.C.

The five most prominent EB sites, from north to south, are Bab edh-Dhra', Numeira, Safi, Feifeh, and Khaneizrah. All except Safi have, or appear to have, town walls.

Could these EB sites seriously be considered as the remnants of the Cities of the Plain? Could they possibly correspond to the five biblical cities of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboim and "Bela (that is, Zoar)"?

In the preliminary report of their 1973 survey, Drs. Rast and Schaub stated: "... the sites may bear on the biblical tradition of the 'cities of the plain' (Genesis 14, 18, 19), long believed to be located in this area and sometimes thought to have been submerged beneath the shallow waters of the southern basin of the Dead Sea. If the biblical traditions find roots going back as far as the Early Bronze Age, the sites reported here may be of some importance."

The debate was further fuelled by the epigraphist of the Ebla excavations in northern Syria, Giovanni Pettinato, who thought in 1975 that the five Cities of the Plain were mentioned in some of the 3rd Millennium B.C. cuneiform tablets excavated in the rich archives of Ebla. He suggested that all five cities were mentioned in one of the tablets, listed in the same order as in the Bible. Most of the Ebla tablets date to the period from around 2650-2350 B.C. — precisely during the lifetime of Bab edh-Dhra', Numeira and the other Early Bronze Age sites in south Jordan.

Dr. Pettinato's ideas have been seriously challenged by other

epigraphists who dispute his readings. While the controversy about the correct interpretation of the Ebla tablets may or may not shed light on the location and date of the five Cities of the Plain, it remains possible that Ebla may have had commercial contacts with contemporary Early Bronze Age towns in south Jordan.

The independent archaeological evidence that has been gleaned from the south Jordan landscape itself continues to fuel the scholarly debate.

The riddle of the Cities of the Plain is confounded by the fact that the only historical reference to the cities is in the Bible. But the Bible is a notoriously imprecise guide to historical fact, geographical location or exact and verifiable historical dates.

As Dr. Schaub told the Jordan Times in a recent interview here, talking about the Genesis accounts: "The tradition of the Cities of the Plain is a complex of ancient and hazy recollections that probably go back to some actual event. When one tries to consider the possible identification of our EB sites in south Jordan with the Cities of the Plain, there are a number of things to keep in mind. The long history of the biblical texts is very intertwined, and it is hard to fix a firm date for the historical traditions that may lie behind the literary traditions."

Where were the cities?

The Bible provides several clues about the location of the cities: they were located east of the Dead Sea, near Moab, in an area of lush vegetation associated with a *kikkar*, or circular plain, near some barren, desolate regions, and also associated with bitumen and salt formations.

All of these elements are found in the south-eastern plain of the Dead Sea, and some of them, but not all, are also found north of the Dead Sea.

The presence of at least five EB town sites could be seen as good evidence for an association with the Cities of the Plain, though Dr. Schaub also warns that "we need to qualify the biblical tradition, for

there is nothing magical about the number five. There is some serious doubt among scholars about whether there were ever five cities that existed at once."

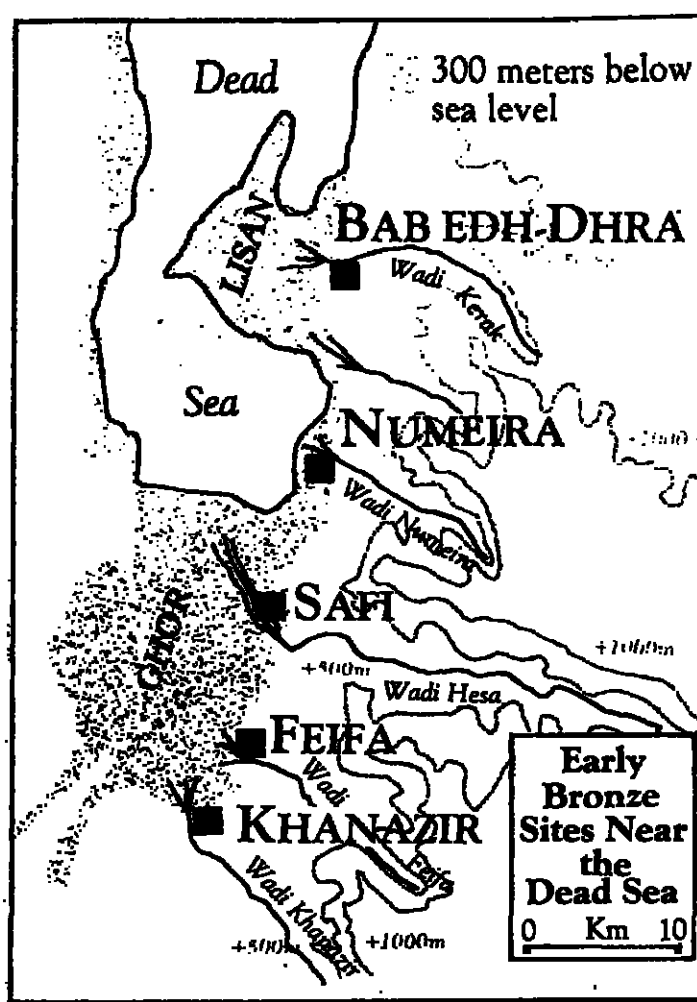
The Genesis 18 and 19 texts only mention the destruction of two towns, Sodom and Gomorrah, though all five towns are mentioned in the Genesis 14 accounts. Some biblical scholars feel that the Genesis accounts may go back to a single town. Others feel that the biblical accounts may have reflected events that took place at two cities north of the Dead Sea and two south of the Dead Sea.

The city of Zoar, with which the Lot traditions are also connected, may have been added to these at a later stage to produce the tradition of the five Cities of the Plain that has been handed down to us today.

Genesis 14 recounts the tale of an alliance of four kings from the north (probably Syria) who marched to do battle against five kings of the Cities of the Plain, who had refused to pay tribute to the northern kings. The five kings of south Jordan were beaten and their cities destroyed, and the four kings of the north returned to Syria, having taken captive Lot, Abraham's nephew. Abraham pursued them to near Damascus, defeated them, and returned to the area of the Cities of the Plain with his freed nephew Lot.

In the Genesis 13 accounts, Abraham and Lot have an argument and part ways: "And Lot lifted up his eyes, and saw that the Jordan valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt in the direction of Zoar; this was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan valley, and Lot journeyed east; thus they separated from each other. Abraham dwelt in the land of Canaan, while Lot dwelt among the cities of the valley and moved his tent as far as Sodom. Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the Lord."

The date of the archaeological remains in south Jordan appears to be out of sequence with the generally accepted date for the



Abrahamic period, when the Bible recounts the events associated with the Cities of the Plain. Most scholars tend to assume that Abraham existed around 1900-1800 B.C.; but some scholars of the Bible place him as late as 1700 B.C., or as early as 2300 B.C.

Such respected biblical scholars as Dr. David N. Freedman feel the Genesis 14 stories "most likely ... belong roughly to the period around 2400 and 2100, perhaps around 2300-2200." Mr. Willem C. van Hattum, writing in the *Biblical Archaeologist* magazine, believes that the destruction of the Cities of the Plain, described in Genesis 18,19, should be placed between 2400-2300 B.C.

The major destruction levels at Bab edh-Dhra' and Numeira date from around 2350 B.C. This is, 400-500 years earlier than the generally accepted date for Abrahamic times, though very close to or precisely within the period that some scholars associate with the biblical accounts of the Cities of the Plain.

It is perhaps noteworthy that at least three of the five sites surveyed by Rast and Schaub (Bab edh-Dhra', Numeira and Feifeh) show considerable evidence of a violent, fiery destruction. Also all five were abandoned forever, or for many centuries in some cases, after their destruction or abandonment at the end of the Early Bronze Age.

Report: U.S. troops not smart enough for future 'smart' arms

By Christopher Hanson
Reuter

WASHINGTON — U.S. troops will not be smart enough to operate "smart" high-tech weapons the Pentagon is developing for a new era of remote-controlled warfare, according to a report released on July 20.

The report by defence analyst Martin Binkin of the Brookings Institution, a private research group, said the pool of potential recruits able to maintain, repair and use such weapons is shrinking even as the need for them is growing.

Pentagon planners are at work on a range of weapons which would, in theory, turn much future fighting over to computers and robot-guided weapons.

In the so-called deep strike system, airborne surveillance systems would locate columns of enemy tanks hundreds of miles behind the front lines and feed target data back to computers.

Guided rockets would then be fired, dropping precision-guided munitions which, led to their moving targets by the tell-tale heat of tank engines, would destroy entire enemy tank units before they could join the battle.

U.S. weapons systems from jets to tanks to anti-aircraft guns are increasingly more sophisticated, complex, and computer-reliant, the report said.

Binkin said these weapons trends could be stopped short by

inadequate manpower and urged a shift to less complicated systems that are easier to maintain.

He said that by the early 1990s, U.S. armed forces may be caught between a growing need for skilled people to operate and maintain sophisticated weaponry and "a diminished supply of youthful recruits of skilled technicians among military."

The proportion of skilled technicians among military personnel, 13 per cent in World War II, was up to 30 per cent now. It would have to grow larger to keep pace with the growing complexity of weapons, the report said.

Even today, breakdowns of sophisticated gear were taking the available manpower, it said.

Weapons systems such as the advanced F-16 and F-18 jet fighters were built with "diagnostic" equipment to help technicians uncover breakdowns and potential malfunctions.

But the diagnostic equipment was itself very complex and tended to break down or malfunction.

It said the Stinger shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missile, a smart weapon which, sources say the United States has supplied to guerrilla fighters in Angola and Afghanistan, requires split-second decisions by the operator through each phase of an 18-step aiming and firing process.

It said army researchers concluded in 1983 that the Stinger was too complicated for many soldiers.

Cocaine pipeline from Latin America to U.S. difficult to cut

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuter

LA PAZ — Efforts to cut the cocaine pipeline from Latin America to the United States, the world's biggest market for illicit drugs, are running into problems that appear to defy solutions.

Some of the obstacles facing the Reagan administration in its fight against Latin American cocaine came into focus this month when Washington sent six Blackhawk helicopters and 170 troops to Bolivia to help in a joint anti-drug project.

The deployment of U.S. troops touched nationalist nerves and caused a political storm in Bolivia, where coca leaf has been grown for thousands of years and much of the population fails to see the production of cocaine as a criminal activity.

"A lot is to be done to raise the consciousness of the people (on cocaine)," said Information Minister Herman Anelmo, echoing what has become a chief concern of international anti-narcotics agencies.

In Bolivia and the three other Latin American countries — Colombia, Peru and Ecuador — that account for virtually all the world's cocaine, there is a widespread tendency to view cocaine abuse as a U.S. problem and the men who control the multi-billion dollar traffic as romantic Robin Hoods.

Such attitudes in the Latin American producer countries were signed out as a major hurdle in fighting the international drug trade at a recent meeting in Rio de Janeiro of the specialised inter-American conference on narcotics traffic, a body of the Organisation of American States (OAS).

"But this is not the only problem," said a Western drug expert. "There are a host of others just as difficult to solve, if they can be solved at all."

Narcotics experts agree that the key to ending the traffic in cocaine would be to convince peasants in the four producing countries to switch to other crops. Even optimists view that possibility as extremely remote because no other commodity is as profitable.

President Alan Garcia of Peru, the world's leading producer of coca leaf, has described coca as the only Latin American commodity that has steadily risen in value while most traditional agricultural products have plummeted in price.

At a signing ceremony for an anti-narcotics pact by the Andean countries on April 30, Garcia labelled the drug traffickers as "the only successful transnational (organisation) that exists in Latin America."

According to Bolivian government estimates, at least 300,000 Bolivians are involved in

the production of cocaine paste, the base product for the white powder whose use has spread explosively in the United States and Western Europe over the past few years.

The cocaine chain leads from Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador to Brazil and Colombia, where paste is processed into powder and shipped on an infinite variety of routes to the United States and Europe. "Despite considerable overheads — aircraft, laboratory equipment, communications — the profits are staggering," said a narcotics expert.

In Bolivia, the cocaine traffic is estimated to yield around \$600 million a year — considerably more than all legal exports put together. In Peru, cocaine has emerged as the second-biggest foreign currency earner after oil.

Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro said recently his country's cocaine kings had so much economic clout that they might well buy their way to victory in democratic elections.

"Election campaigns cost more and more every day and the economic influence of the cocaine mafia could lead to unexpected results in terms of who runs the country," he told a U.S. news magazine.

In comparison with the huge sums in the hands of cocaine traffickers, U.S. contributions to the fight against drugs in the producer countries — all of them poor and under-developed — are tiny, despite the widely-publicised U.S.-Bolivian operation.

Bolivian officials say the United States allotted a total of \$1.65 million to the anti-drug fight in Bolivia, not counting the cost of the Blackhawk and the U.S. military personnel.

The government insists it needs at least \$100 million, and other countries also complain that the U.S. contribution is inadequate.

While the cultivation of coca leaf in Bolivia is perfectly legal — turning the leaf into paste is illegal — Peru has set limits on the area that can be used for growing coca.

In both nations, the leaf has been grown for thousands of years and the practice of chewing it goes back to the Incas.

Production estimates vary but experts agree that Peru is the world's number one producer, followed by Bolivia.

Coca growing in Peru is operated by a state monopoly, Enaca, which has authorised the cultivation of the plant on 17,915 hectares. The U.S. State Department says the total area under cultivation is some five times as large.

Moving against illicit coca production is difficult not only because many peasants depend on it but also because there is no chemical agent that can be sprayed on the plants.



Medieval Arab standing remains at Safi... site of a biblical City of the Plain?



Excavations at Numeira... could this have been the infamous city Gomorrah?

Britain has something nobody else has — a superstar royal family

By Graham Heathcote
The Associated Press

LONDON — The economy may sag and unemployment may soar but the British have something nobody else has — a superstar royal family that can drive such dreary thoughts away with a single day of joyous wedding spectacle.

Like a tonic prescribed when Britain's spirits ebb, the royal pageant rolls out at regular intervals — a wedding here, a parliamentary procession there, nine months of anticipating the birth of a prince or princess for the nation to date on.

The secret ingredient is the British royal family's patented combination of dignity and glamour, modernity and awesome history. And this time a dash of very public and very real romance.

A handsome 26-year-old naval lieutenant named Andrew married a pretty, fun-loving young woman named Sarah on Wednesday and 500 million viewers watched on TV sets around the world.

Queen Elizabeth II may have looked like a nicely tanned mother of the groom at the Westminster Abbey wedding of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson, but the nation knows she is the living tie to their glorious past.

As Britons basked in the aftermath of the royal's latest extravaganza, a Gallup poll published Thursday said 89 per cent of those surveyed said they were proud to be British.

On the eve of the wedding, Cambridge University analyst Correll Barnett complained that Britain had slipped to 14th in the West in terms of annual gross

national product per capita, and trailed all the advanced countries of Europe. Unemployment is running about 13 per cent and never seems to get any better.

But after the ceremonies, Daily Express columnist Jon Akass wrote, "let there be no curmudgeons. The royal wedding may have been of small importance in the global scale of things, but it was also magnificent."

"This country is in a league of its own when it comes to trumpets and radiant brides sitting in gold coaches. So let there be no carping about the latest export figures and the state of our machine tool industry."

The 4-million circulation Sun, Britain's best-selling newspaper agreed saying, "the gorgeous spectacle could not be matched anywhere in the world."

The Times of London said the wedding was "an act of pure theatre ... which gave immense satisfaction to a worldwide audience of 500 million."

One rebel lawmaker complained about the cost of "this bloody jamboree," but Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's reply that the taxpayers' bill was £13,000 (about \$170,000) didn't sound like much ammunition for the anti-royalists.

No one knows how much will come from the queen's own purse, but the taxpayers' outlay was for extra security arrangements, ceremonial services, flags and temporary lavatories for the public.

It's a modern monarchy now. A far cry from 1923, when Queen mother Elizabeth was married. Mention of that event was

Corp. radio, according to its official history, "for fear that it would be listened to in pubs by men disrespectfully wearing hats."

But the importance of the royal family has remained constant as the country's fortunes have shifted.

When the sun comes out and the household cavalry cluster down the mall in the queen's processions and the crowds cheer and wave paper flags, to many it all seems very right and not antique, not quaint nor ridiculously out of date.

Sometimes, ordinary people shine for a moment in the fairy tale.

Two months ago, 23-year-old Andrew McGill was on welfare in the port city of Liverpool when the local job centre offered him a job in a "big house in London."

To his own expressed amazement, McGill turned out to be a footman at Buckingham palace and consequently found himself in a uniform designed 150 years ago, riding on the back of the coach carrying Miss Ferguson to

wed Prince Andrew.

Said McGill's mother Marjorie, who saw it on TV, "when he was helping Sarah, I wasn't looking at her. ... I was thinking, 'don't let your hat fall off, son, and thank goodness it didn't'."

When the grandeur is at its most impressive the royal family, with a mastery of theatrical timing, lets slip a bit of ordinariness — tantalising hints that they might be more like the rest of us than we think.

— Four-year-old pageboy

New GTE system promises more phone line capacity

By Catherine Arnst
Reuter

BOSTON — Telephone lines will be able to carry four times their present traffic and users should benefit from lower rates, using a new technology just announced by the United States firm General Telephone and Electronics (GTE).

But the development may have an even greater impact on private telephone networks installed by large corporations, called bypass systems because they bypass the public network.

GTE officials acknowledge it could be some time before the new technology wins the approvals required for use on a public telephone network.

But they said GTE may start offering the system to private operators within a year.

The new development, which digitally compresses four telephone voice channels into the space now needed for one, "is a significant advancement," said

John Redmond, president of GTE's research and development operations.

"It will likely reduce channel transmission costs for operators of private communication networks, as well as for telephone companies," he said.

Reducing channel costs is an important concern to large corporations, where telecommunications costs can be as much as six per cent of sales. About a quarter of all large U.S. corporations have some sort of private telecommunications network, according to a recent study, and that figure is expected to rise to 50 per cent by next year.

If a company has several offices in one area, a private network can save up to 60 per cent of its local phone costs.

Many of the private lines or other methods used for bypass systems, such as microwave transmission, suffer from poor voice quality, particularly when there is heavy voice traffic.

Scientists around the world have been trying for the last two

decades to increase the capacity of existing telephone systems while maintaining the same quality.

GTE succeeded by developing an algorithm — a set of mathematical formulae — which electrically codes speech at a rate of 16,000 electrical pulses per second for transmission over telephone lines.

The standard rate for this type of digital transmission is 64,000 pulses per second. By applying the algorithm to a network, its developers said a single telephone switch could carry 96 channels where only 24 can be carried now.

Baruch Mazor, principle researcher for GTE's four-year development effort, said the algorithm "capitalises on the redundancy in speech" by eliminating unnecessary repetitions.

The system analyses each 22-1/2 millisecond fragment of speech and ranks which part is essential and which can be dropped. In essence, it transmits only what is different from fragment to fragment, rather than what is the

same. Mazor said the algorithm cannot perform the same service for data transmitted directly over phone lines. Data transmission is an increasingly expensive portion of a large corporation's phone bill.

However, he said his team had obtained good results in experiments using a modem — a device that acts as an intermediary between the computer and the telephone system — which transmits data at a rate of 1,200 characters per second.

The technology will also free more channels for data transmission by compressing voice into fewer lines, he said.

When the technology does eventually become available to the public telephone system user, Mazor predicts consumers will be able to subscribe to services such as video-conferencing and affordable videotext, now available only to large corporations.

"Speech should only be a fraction of the total transmission," said Mazor, rather than what is the

Controversies rock Edinburgh games

EDINBURGH (R) — A series of controversies rocked the Commonwealth Games Sunday night, with Daley Thompson, the world's top all-round athlete, at the centre of a major row over sponsorship.

A Canadian coach claimed one of his athletes had been robbed of a medal by officials' bias and two British steeplechasers were at each other's throats over a controversial disqualification.

Temper also flared in the swimming pool, where English 400 metres freestyle gold medalist Sarah Hardcastle accused the Australians of using psychological tactics to ruin her chances.

Thompson, England's Olympic decathlon champion and a comfortable leader at the halfway stage in the Edinburgh event, was accused by one of the games sponsors, the Guinness Brewery, of defacing the company logo on his vest.

Under International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) rules, athletes are required to display the sponsor's name on the competing numbers attached to their vests.

A spokesman for Guinness, which put £2 million (\$3 million) into the games, said it was now the responsibility of the IAAF to make sure its rules were enforced.

"The last thing we want to see is Thompson disqualified from the games, but if you have rules in sport they have to be obeyed," the spokesman said.

Officials said privately that it was unlikely Thompson would face disqualification from the games providing he wore the sponsor's logo for the remainder

of the decathlon events.

A close watch would be kept on the athlete when he appears on the track, they said.

Earlier, two British track stars were up in arms after claims of cheating in the 3,000 metres steeplechase final.

The trouble flared after second-placed Welshman Roger Hackney was disqualified for allowing his trailing leg to go wide of the water jump barrier.

But after watching a videotape of the race, officials decided to reinstate Hackney to the silver position and drop original third-place finisher Colin Reitz of England to the bronze.

Reitz, who threatened to boycott the medal presentation ceremony, complained: "Roger has broken the rules. I can't understand why he has not been disqualified. It was a complete farce and I feel disgusted."

Canadian sprint coach Charlie Francis claimed his team had been robbed of a medal in the women's 100 metres final by the bias of games officials.

Francis said England's Heather Oakes and Paula Dunn, who won gold and silver respectively, had been allowed by officials to get off to a "flyer".

Claiming that Canadian Angela Issajenko would have won the gold in the start had been fair, he said: "I think this was a complete attempt to arrange

results. As far as I am concerned it is cheating."

Francis also claimed that England's Linford Christie was allowed a "flyer" in the men's sprint final, which was won easily by Canadian Ben Johnson.

In row at the pool, the 17-year-old Hardcastle, who swam a games record time, said the Australian team had used psychological tactics in an attempt to make her lose against second-placed Susie Baumer.

"One of their coaches told my coach that he would give him his stopwatch if Susie beat me. I think they were trying to psyche me out," she said.

Johnson, the hottest track athlete in the world, began his bid for three golds in style when he breezed to victory in the 100 metres final in 10.07 seconds.

Simpson, trailing Australian Jane Flemming by 23 points after the javelin, penultimate event of the heptathlon, won the major championship title she so badly wanted by just four points with a display of pure courage in the 800 metres.

Australia's one gold medal came from Greg Fassala, who stamped himself as the Commonwealth's fastest swimmer by winning the men's 100 metres freestyle title.

But the undoubted star of the night was the 17-year-old Hardcastle, England's Olympic silver medalist, who produced what she called "one of the greatest swims of my life" to capture gold in the 400 metres freestyle.

Her time when she won the Olympic silver in 1984 was four minutes 10.27 seconds. Sunday night she surpassed that for the first time since that Los Angeles win with a sparkling 4:07.68.

thoroughly unpleasant for the athletes.

"The wind conditions out there were awful," Flintoff said bluntly. Johnson said it had been very cold and Black expressed it more diplomatically when he said: "Conditions weren't exactly perfect."

In swimming, Canada drew level with Australia in their swimming gold medal battle while England's Sarah Hardcastle served notice of a world record-breaking future.

Toronto teenager Sandy Goss captured the men's 200 metres backstroke title and their quartet sprinted to victory in the Women's 4x100 metres freestyle relay as Canada increased their gold medal total to six.

Australia managed only one on the night but also have six, while New Zealand scored a surprising triumph through Sylvia Hume in the women's 100 metres backstroke, their first victory in the pool at these games.

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Arab couple plans globe-girdling tour in sailboat

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — After nine years of planning, a Saudi and his Egyptian wife hope to become the first Arabs to make a globe-girdling tour in a sailboat.

They say they want to use the voyage to dispel the stigma of terrorism frequently attached to Arabs.

Mr. Al Sharif Jamil Adnan, 37, an Egyptian-born Saudi who is a business administration senior at Stanford University, California, hopes to complete the tour within less than one year.

Mr. Adnan and his wife Chahrazad, 27, plan to sail from the English Channel in late September for Casablanca, Morocco, the official starting-point of the tour. They will leave Cairo for Britain next week.

From Casablanca, they will sail to the Caribbean, the Panama Canal and the South Pacific where they plan to stay for about a month in Tahiti. The itinerary then would take them to Australia, where they will stop for three months, across the Indian Ocean, through the Red Sea, the Suez Canal, the Mediterranean and Gibraltar before ending up at Casablanca.

"We want to show the world that not all Arabs are terrorists and that they can be just as adventurous as anyone," Mr. Adnan told the Associated Press.

The couple's 31-foot one-mast boat called "Baraka" — Arabic word for blessing — is being built

in England by Camper and Nicholson, a firm specialising in small craft.

"We need all the blessings we can get for this trip," Mrs. Chahrazad said.

Mr. Adnan said he has spent the past nine years planning for the trip.

"The worst things that can happen on such a trip are falling overboard or colliding with ships," he said. As a precaution, he said, lifelines on both sides of the boat will tie the couple to it throughout the voyage. A radar is being installed at the top of the mast to monitor signals from other vessels.

"I can't wait to set sail. It'll be a life's dream come true," he said.

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Mrs. Chahrazad sounded less enthusiastic although she said she was "excited at the prospect of meeting all kinds of people and seeing all kinds of places."

"I am going because he is going," she said. "It will be a different life altogether. I can just imagine my first night at sea."

The couple are learning to adapt to seafaring.

"You need to stay awake all night when visibility is low and there is a great risk that you may collide with a ship every hour and a half," Mr. Adnan said.

Presently, the couple make a point of staying awake all night. In the morning, they take 90-minute naps one at a time. They also jog to keep fit.

Sanchez beats Wilander, takes third title

BASTAD, Sweden (R) — Emilio Sanchez of Spain recorded a surprise defeat over world number two Mats Wilander 7-6 (7-5), 4-6, 6-4 Sunday to win the Swedish Open tennis tournament.

The victory gave Sanchez, 21, his third Grand Prix title this year and ended an unbeaten run of 23 matches in the tournament by the Swede, who won here in 1982, 1983 and 1985 but did not compete in 1984.

The Spaniard's success also confirmed his potential after rising to 21 in the world rankings this year with tournament wins at Nice and Munich, and reaching the fourth round of the French Open in Paris.

Sanchez owed his victory to long sweeping forehands from the baseline and incisive attacking play at the net.

He came from behind to level the scores at 4-4 in the first set by taking three successive games to love with some powerful serves and returns, and he recovered from 2-5 down in the tiebreak to win 7-5.

Ballesteros breaks the million mark

NOORDWIJK, Netherlands (R) — Severiano Ballesteros's brilliant career turned full circle Sunday as he won the Dutch Open golf championship by a runaway eight strokes.

That was the margin by which Ballesteros won the first of his 48 major titles around the world — in the 1976 Dutch Open.

Ballesteros fired a 68 for a nine-under-par 271 total to finish ahead of fellow-Ryder Cup Spaniard Jose Rivero (72) with Britain's Philip Parkin (72) and Argentina's Vicente Fernandez (also 72) sharing third place on 280.

Ballesteros's victory, the fifth in his last six tournaments, earned him £23,330 (\$34,950) and made him the first man to win £1 million (\$1.5 million) in Europe.

His season's earnings from nine starts, in which his worst finish has

been joint sixth in last week's British Open, are more than £195,000 (\$292,500) and his career earnings in Europe now total £1,005,838 (just over \$1.5 million).

He said: "It is a great record. I think, to be the first to win a million pounds in Europe and the only man to win a million dollars here and a million dollars in America."

The Spaniard added: "I think I have now won about \$4 million worldwide. Nothing is easy but no one got closer than four shots today. I played fantastic golf on the second nine."

"Another great thing to happen here in Holland this week for me was to meet the footballer Johann Cruyff. He was my idol when he played for the club I have always supported, Barcelona, and I was

nervous when I met him," he said.

Ballesteros, who is now taking a week to rest at home before flying to America for the PGA championship, birdied two of the first four holes with long putts, then picked up three more birdies in five holes coming home and another at the last after bogeying the short 17th.

Rivero dropped three strokes in a row to be out in 38 but eagled the long 11th to edge clear of Parkin, who finished with two bogeys, and Fernandez, two-under-par for the last eight holes.

Ireland's Des Smyth (70) and Australian Ian Baker-Finch (72) were among those sharing fifth place on 281.

Ballesteros's victory followed successes in the British Masters, Irish, Monte Carlo and French Opens.

Bradley, Crenshaw win major golf tournaments in Canada, United States

TORONTO, Ontario (R) — Leading money winner and defending champion Pat Bradley sank a 10-foot putt on the first

playoff hole to defeat Ayako Okamoto of Japan and win the \$350,000 Toronto Women's Golf tournament Sunday.

Bradley fired a six-under-par 66 to finish the LPGA event with a 12-under-par 276 total. On the 18th hole, Bradley got up and down from about 30 yards out and sank a two-footer to tie Okamoto for the lead.

"I knew she could get up and down from there," said Okamoto. "I am thrilled to have gone into a playoff with Bradley. She has been playing so well."

Nine-year veteran Betsy King and Nancy Scranton tied for third at seven-under-par for the tournament. King shot a one-under-par 71 while Scranton fired a three-under-par 69.

Chris Johnson and Cathy Morie tied for fourth place at six-under-par 282.

"What a great day. I accomplished a few things like defending successfully which I have never done in my career and posting my third major this year," said Bradley.

"I'm thrilled to have met with requirement to win. It's amazing that I shot a 66 and still had to go into a playoff. That just shows how tough it can be out there."

In Grand Blanc, Michigan, Ben Crenshaw completed his comeback from serious physical problems when he won a men's \$500,000 PGA Golf tournament Sunday by one stroke over Doug Tewell and J.C. Snead.

Crenshaw played a marvellous round of four-under-par 68 with four birdies and no bogeys for an 18-under-par 270 total. It was the 11th victory of his tour career and his first since the 1984 Masters tournament.

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- Ground investigation firms with suitable experience and resources are invited. Both local and foreign companies in association with local firms will be eligible for pre-qualification, though all applicants will be required to demonstrate that they have made appropriate arrangements to procure the required specialist services from companies with suitable experience before applying.
- Firms wishing to pre-qualify to tender for this contract should apply to receive the pre-qualification document from the Jordan Valley Authority, P.O. Box (2769), Amman. Tel: 644217, Telex: 21053 JVAJO
- The pre-qualification document will be available for distribution from 28th July, 1986 and the closing date for the submission of applications for pre-qualification is 1200 hrs Jordan local time on 14th August, 1986.

Dr. Munther Haddadin
President
Jordan Valley Authority

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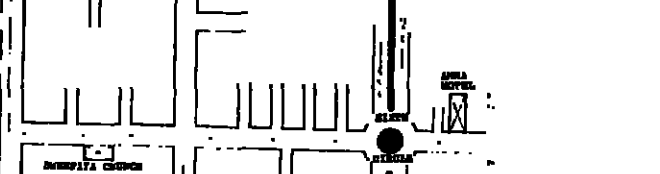
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Indian oil imports total \$2.8 billion

NEW DELHI (AP) — India imported crude oil worth \$2.8 billion in the last fiscal year, according to an official estimate released Monday. The imports totalled 14.6 million tonnes in the fiscal year which ended March 31, Petroleum Minister Sushila Rohatgi told the national parliament. Mrs. Rohatgi said India was meeting 69 per cent of its oil requirement from domestic production. In order to cut down on imports, the government has intensified oil exploration work, introduced sophisticated oil-recovery techniques and technology and increased domestic prices to curb consumption, she said. She said India would save substantial foreign exchange because of the sharp drop in international oil prices.

Yugoslavia to offer free petrol to tourists

BELGRADE (R) — The Yugoslav Tourist Association plans to offer a free tank of petrol to foreign tourists, the official news agency Tanjug said Monday. It said foreign tourists at present get coupons offering a five per cent discount on petrol but the incentive was not attracting enough people. The new proposal, which should go into effect next year and which is aimed at countering a tourist shortfall, would grant foreigners spending from one to two weeks in Yugoslavia up to 100 litres (22 gallons) of free petrol, Tanjug said.

Egypt opens new \$170m air terminal

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak Sunday inaugurated a new \$170 million air terminal at Cairo International Airport, designed on the lines of Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris. The new terminal can handle some five million passengers a year and will serve 32 international carriers. The current terminal, built to handle six million passengers, was used by 7.5 million in 1984/85.

Iraq ratifies power accord with Turkey

BAGHDAD (OPECNA) — The Iraqi Revolution Command Council (RCC) has ratified a 1985 agreement under which Iraq will supply 400 million kilowatt of electricity to Turkey annually. The agreement will enable Turkey to meet the industrial and domestic power needs of its southeastern provinces. This is the first accord of its kind signed between the two countries.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.4710/20	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3868/73	Canadian dollars
	2.1365/75	West German marks
	2.4075/85	Dutch guilders
	1.7220/30	Swiss francs
	44.05/10	Belgian francs
	6.9025/75	French francs
	1465/1466	Italian lire
	156.90/157.00	Japanese yen
	7.0550/0600	Swedish crowns
	7.4965/5015	Norwegian crowns
	8.0250/0300	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	351.80/352.30	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices ended mixed on the opening day of the account in minimal activity after a lacklustre session in the absence of a definitive market moving factor.

Early trading was mixed and hesitant in the face of easier crude prices which depressed sterling and saw government bonds 3/4 point down in sympathy. However, selling was tempered by Wall Street's gains on Friday and the market remained fairly steady and mostly in a narrow range as sterling's downward path flattened, dealers said.

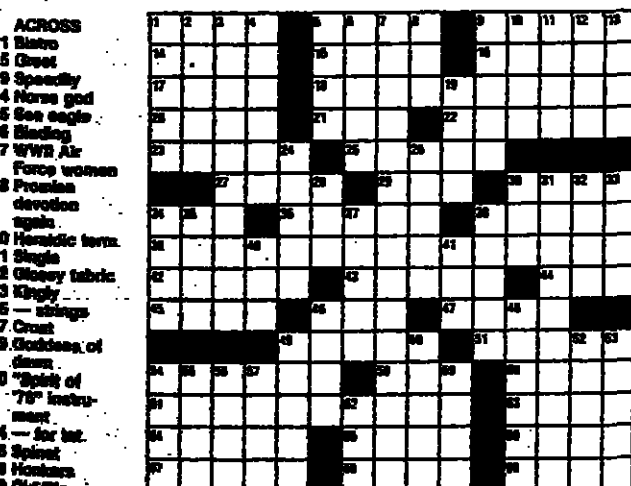
At 1430 Monday the FTSE 100 index was 0.9 up at 1,546.7. Government bonds ended with falls ranging to 7/16 point after initial decline of 3/4 point mostly due to short-covering in light trading, dealers said.

Among stocks to benefit from sterling's weakness Glaxo rose 3p to 958, GKN 4p to 331, and Jaguar 5p to 513 while ICI was a net 3p firmer at 997. BOC at 303 with Scottish and Newcastle Breweries at 184 were both 4p down and British Telecom 3p off at 180 after 178, all trading ex-dividend.

Reuters closed 3p higher at 503 after touching 513 following half year profits of \$57.2 million versus \$43.2 million, in line with market expectations, dealers said.

Horoscope not received

THE Daily Crossword by Dorothy B. Martin



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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Egyptian president rejects IMF terms to relieve economic crisis

BONN (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has been quoted as saying that International Monetary Fund (IMF) conditions for relieving Egypt's economic crisis would cause unrest in his country and he will not accept them.

"Were I to accept the 'recommendations' of the IMF, there would be unrest. The people would get out of control. The IMF doesn't think of that one bit," President Mubarak told the Hamburg magazine Der Spiegel in an interview.

He was quoted as saying that the IMF wanted his government to remove food subsidies and raise interest rates from 11 to 20 per cent in return for rescheduling its \$36 billion foreign debt and providing fresh standby credits. "I will not accept these conditions and with the help of friends I have just contacted I will achieve economic relief which will avert such unwelcome eventualities," he said.

The Egyptian leader made a whirlwind tour of Rome, Paris, London and Bonn earlier this month to secure European support for easier terms for Cairo.

He repeated in the interview earlier statements that leaders in all four capitals had shown great understanding for Egypt's particular political problems and the need to move gradually towards economic reform.

Calling the IMF conditions "impossible to implement," President Mubarak said: "There is a threshold which we cannot cross. The IMF does not seem to care about that. How would the average Egyptian react if he were to wake up one morning and find the price of meat had doubled?"

He recalled being told by the then Tanzanian president Julius Nyerere that the IMF had once advised him to raise the cost of staple foods by five times overnight.

Mr. Nyerere said he did not take the advice because he would have been toppled from power, President Mubarak told Spiegel.

He was quoted as saying the

world body had treated Mexico much more generously in terms of interest rate recommendations, and he pointed out that Egypt, like Mexico, had also been hit hard by the fall in the price of oil.

He said he was not trying to disguise the fact that Egypt was facing enormous economic difficulties but its economy had a solid base.

With no unemployment, a growth rate of three per cent and a decent infrastructure it was better off than the majority of Third World countries, he added.

Egypt abolishes 'official incentive' rate

Meanwhile, Egypt Sunday took a first step towards rationalising its cumbersome exchange rate system, scrapping one of the four authorised rates at which its currency, the pound, is exchanged.

Economy Minister Sultan Abu Ali announced that the government had abolished the "official incentive" rate of 0.83 pounds, or 83 piastres to the U.S. dollar.

The other key rates — an official rate of 70 piastres to one dollar and an official floating rate, fixed daily and currently about 1.34 pounds to one dollar — remained in force, the minister said in a statement.

The pound has one other official rate, 40 piastres to the dollar for calculation of Egypt's long-standing military equipment debts to its former main supplier, the Soviet Union, and for barter agreements with East European countries.

This rate was not mentioned in Mr. Abu Ali's statement, dated last Thursday and issued Sunday but appeared still to be in force.

The statement said that in view of the decision to abolish the official-incentive rate, "the rates that are used in dealing within the banking system have been reduced to two."

The central bank's official rate of 70 piastres to the dollar would be used to calculate the value of

Egypt's exports of raw cotton, rice, oil and petroleum products.

It would also still be used in meeting the country's "foreign obligations," the statement said, apparently meaning government debt repayments.

This rate would also be used for Egypt's imports of foodstuffs and essential products for agriculture, health services, the oil industry and defence, it added.

The official floating rate of about 1.34 pounds to one dollar, quoted daily by the central bank, will become the rate used by the registered banks in Egypt for all payments and receipts, the statement said.

There is also a free-market rate, determined by supply and demand, of around 1.90 pounds to the dollar for unofficial transactions, including remittances by Egyptian workers abroad.

Several uses of the official-incentive rate have already been scrapped, in line with official policy of gradually dismantling the multi-tier system and eventually setting a unified price for the pound.

Calculation of air fares was shifted to the floating rate last December, pushing up the price of tickets paid in local currency by 60 per cent.

The official-incentive rate was used for purchase of pounds by embassies, international organisations and some private foreign businesses in Egypt, which now will apparently be able to use the floating rate and get more pounds for their dollars.

It was also used for export proceeds of some agricultural commodities exported by the public sector, and for purchase of foreign exchange by state-owned companies to import goods.

Comment from bankers on the impact of the decision was not immediately available. But it appeared in line with a long-standing proposal by the International Monetary Fund, in informal talks with the government, that Egypt should rationalise its exchange rates.

Bonn clears Olivetti - V.W. agreement

WEST BERLIN (R) — The Federal Cartel Office approved plans by Italian office equipment maker Olivetti Monday to buy Triumph-Adler, West Germany's leading producer of electronic typewriters, from the Volkswagen vehicles group.

The takeover will further strengthen the Italian company's position as Europe's foremost specialist in office automation and give it a major foothold in the West German market for electronic typewriters.

Under the terms of an agreement reached with Volkswagen in April, Olivetti will buy the carmaker's 98.4 per cent holding in loss-making Triumph-Adler for an undisclosed sum. Volkswagen will purchase an initial five per cent holding in Olivetti for 600 million marks.

Antwerp diamond trade recovers from tax scandal

BRUSSELS (R) — The diamond trade in Antwerp, the world's biggest polished diamond centre, is flourishing again after recovering from a scandal in which two men were accused of laundering illegal gem profits.

A spokesman for Antwerp's Diamond High Council said Monday that the first half of this year saw a major leap in the volume of diamonds coming through the Belgian port.

Polished diamond imports rose 22 per cent in volume and unpolished imports 40 per cent while the corresponding increases for exports were 5.5 and 17 per cent.

The value of exports in Belgium franc terms fell seven per cent to 78 billion francs (\$1.77 billion), but the spokesman said the heavy fall in the value of the dollar more than accounted for this drop.

The encouraging trend came

despite a noticeable dip in trade in late February and early March, due largely to fears about the Belgian authorities' attitude to the taxation of diamond trading firms, the spokesman said.

These fears were sparked by the arrest last January of Antwerp stockbrokers Francois Leiser and Hilaire Beelen for tax evasion on behalf of their diamond clients.

They were told that the authorities planned to fine their company, Roger Kirsch and Co., 2.3 billion francs (\$51 million) for tax evasion.

Senior diamond dealers said at the time that the arrest of the two men ran counter to an unwritten agreement between the government and the industry on tax and warned that if tax probes continued, some dealers would move their businesses to other world diamond centres.

OPEC ministers go into informal bilateral talks

GENEVA (Agencies) — Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) ministers Monday quickly adjourned their fourth attempt this year to deal with a crisis devastating their economies as oil prices crash through over-production.

With the positions taken by key producers clearly hardening, the 13 ministers adjourned the conference until Tuesday after only 90 minutes and went into a series of informal bilateral discussions.

OPEC is deeply divided on how to control runaway production which has sent oil prices tumbling to below \$9 a barrel from over \$30 in just eight months.

At its third 1986 conference on the Yugoslav island of Brioni a month ago, OPEC agreed by a 9-4 majority to limit its total production to 17.6 million barrels per day (b/d).

But since then, led by the Arab Gulf states, it has boosted output to almost 20 million barrels.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest exporter with huge oil reserves, has made it clear it will not give up its share of the market by cutting production if other oil producers do not follow suit.

The Saudis have boosted their output to around six million barrels a day, compared with their new quota of 4.5 million.

They are backed by Kuwait which has also sharply raised production but like Saudi Arabia has said it is ready to cut back when others do likewise.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is pumping roughly 1.5 million barrels against its OPEC

quota of just over a million. Iran and Iraq are ignoring all restraints as they rely overwhelmingly on oil export revenue to finance their six-year Gulf war.

Although Iran, backed by Algeria, Libya and Gabon, wants OPEC to cut production to boost prices, it has vowed to match Iraq's output barrel for barrel.

UAE Oil Minister Mansour Al Otaiba has stated frankly that this conference, faces "an impossible mission," a position he reiterated after Monday's session.

Conference Chairman Rikman Lukman, the Nigerian oil minister, said after the meeting he still thinks there is "a real possibility" of getting an accord on quotas.

But analysts feel the most OPEC can hope for is another majority agreement which is unlikely to reduce the world surplus of several million barrels or send prices higher.

According to OPEC, the Brioni meeting had to be adjourned while delegates consulted their governments over the new quotas.

Asked why they again had to consult after one short session, the powerful Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani replied tersely: "we are always consulting."

The authoritative Petroleum

Intelligence Weekly (PIW) reported Monday that OPEC's campaign to win back a larger share of the world market has cost its members almost \$100 million a day in lost oil revenues in the first half of this year.

It highlighted the divisions between the rich and poorer OPEC nations by commenting that Saudi Arabia is actually earning more from oil exports than last summer because of its big increase in output.

Meanwhile, Iran's Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh, warned Monday the crisis in OPEC could worsen if oil ministers fail to agree, Iran's official news agency reported.

"OPEC is in its worse situation for 25 years and coming out of the Geneva conference with a unified decision is an urgent task," Mr. Aqazadeh was quoted as saying by the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia.

The minister was addressing a news conference in Tehran, the agency added.

Mr. Aqazadeh stressed that a group led by Saudi Arabia "is responsible for the present situation in the oil market caused by four million barrels a day in excess production," IRNA reported.

"Saudi Arabia floods the market by over-producing two million barrels a day, Kuwait one million barrels, and Iraq and the United Arab Emirates a total of one million barrels a day," he was quoted as saying.

Top makers of blue jeans agree to merge

WYOMISSING, Pennsylvania (R) — Two of the denizens of denim agreed terms Sunday in a multi-million dollar takeover that will link three of the world's best-known brands of blue jeans.

Lee Jeans will merge with its Wrangler and Rustler counterparts under the agreement, to be signed by V.F. Corporation and Blue Bell Holding Co. Inc. under which V.F. will acquire Blue Bell for cash and stock.

V.F. makes Lee Jeans while Blue Bell stitches Wrangler and Rustler jeans among other lines.

The combination of V.F.'s Lee Jeans, the country's third most popular brand of denim trousers, with Blue Bell's Wrangler and Rustler lines would give the merged entity about 25 per cent of the nation's jeans business according to Wall Street analysts.

That should pose a challenge to Levi Strauss and Co. which has about 30 per cent of the jeans market, analysts said.

V.F. said in a statement that under the agreement it will pay \$122.5 million cash and about 5.3 million shares of its common stock for all of the 3.6 million shares of Blue Bell, which became privately held in 1984 through a management-led.

Australia to overhaul tax, foreign investment policies

SYDNEY (R) — The battered Australian dollar recovered Monday after the government announced sweeping policy and tax changes to boost foreign investment.

The dollar, which plunged to an all-time low of 57.15 U.S. cents in early morning trading, rebounded to 63 cents immediately after the announcement by Treasurer Paul Keating. It closed at 61.35 cents.

Money market dealers said it was the biggest turnaround recorded by the Australian currency in a single trading day and gave the ailing economy a much needed boost.

Mr. Keating, who has promised an austere budget next month, said the government would abolish almost all restrictions and ease taxes on foreign investments.

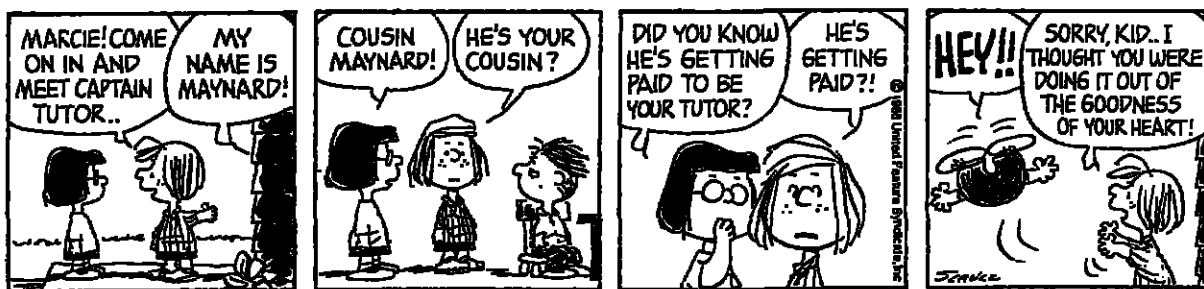
Foreigners no longer would be required to take Australian partners when they acquired local businesses. They also would be allowed to buy property worth 10 million dollars (\$6.3) or more, including hotels and tourist resorts, without local capital.

A virtual ban on foreign ownership of developed commercial property would be loosened, making it possible for outsiders to buy property in a joint venture with Australians.

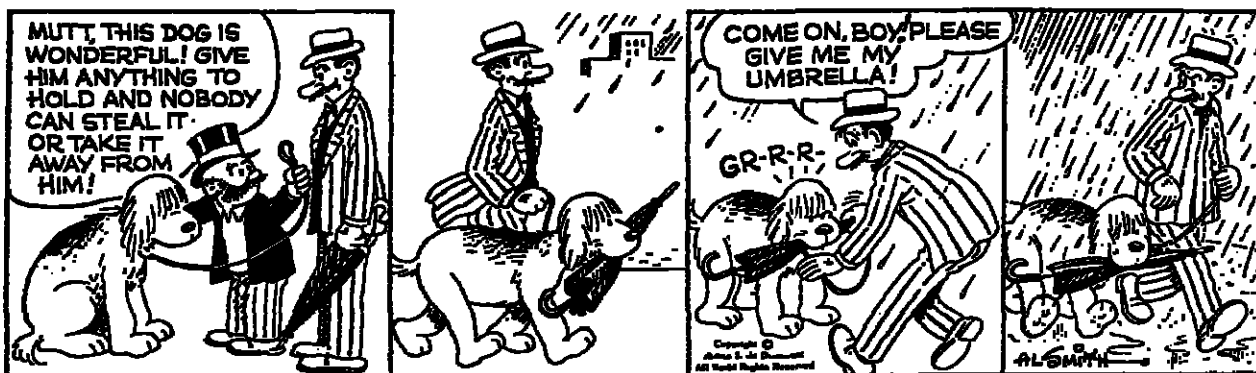
But some said the government, trying to relieve the beleaguered currency, had overplayed its hand. The Australian currency should settle within a 60 to 62 cents range, one senior dealer forecast. Bankers and economists said that despite the initial euphoria Mr. Keating's announcement would not help to remove the country's economic gloom.

A lot would depend on his budget next month which would provide a clear indication how the Labour government planned to deal with a growing balance of payments deficit and a huge external debt.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

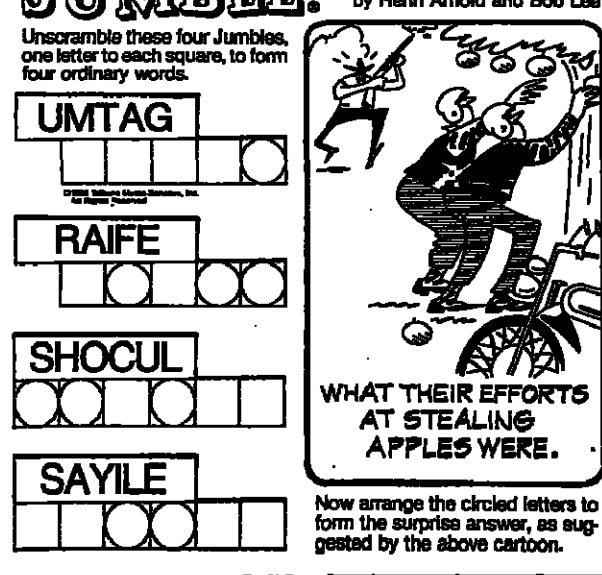


THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"The bank will renegotiate our mortgage at 6%, but they require \$48,000 for filing fees."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Yesterday's Jumbles: WHINE FEIGN DECENT OUTWIT
Answer: A banana skin may help to bring this—
YOUR WEIGHT DOWN

Gorbachev: 6 Soviet regiments to withdraw from Afghanistan

Kremlin favours new U.S.-Soviet summit

MOSCOW (R) — Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev said Monday the Soviet Union would withdraw six regiments from Afghanistan before the end of the year.

Speaking in the Far Eastern city of Vladivostok, he said three anti-aircraft regiments, two motorised rifle regiments and one armoured regiment would return to the Soviet Union to their normal areas of deployment.

Mr. Gorbachev said all Soviet troops could withdraw from Afghanistan once a political settlement of the war between Soviet-backed government forces and Afghan rebels had been concluded.

Moscow intervened in Afghanistan in December 1979 and Western military experts estimate the current number of Soviet troops in the country at 115,000.

Mr. Gorbachev, whose speech was reported by the official news agency TASS and broadcast live on television, said the Soviet Union was withdrawing the six regiments "to speed up a political settlement and give it another impetus."

But he warned the United States and other countries supporting the rebels that "if the intervention against Afghanistan continues, the Soviet Union will stand up for its neighbour."

In a wide-ranging speech, Mr. Gorbachev also said that while in Vladivostok he had received a reply from President Reagan to fresh arms control initiatives that he presented in a letter to Mr. Reagan last month.

"We have begun to study it. We shall treat it with responsibility and attention," he said.

"The most important thing, to us, is above all the extent to which the proposals contained in the letter meet the principle of equal security, and if they make it possible to reach effective joint solutions for ending the arms race and preventing it spreading to space," Mr. Gorbachev said.

He said the Kremlin favoured a new summit with the United States but did not agree that his last meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva had merely produced a promise to meet again.

"The main thing on which we agreed last time with President Reagan, and what we signed, is the consent to strive for the normalisation of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States and for the improvement of the international situation and to speed up talks on reducing arms," Mr. Gorbachev said.

"A new summit meeting, too, is called upon to promote that."

Touching on relations with China, the Kremlin leader said Moscow was ready at any time to discuss additional measures for improving relations between the two Communist neighbours.

The Soviet Union was considering the possibility of withdrawing "a substantial part of Soviet troops" from Mongolia. Moscow was studying the question with Mongolia's leaders, he said.

Mongolia is a close Soviet ally and China's leaders have cited the concentration of Soviet forces

along its border as one obstacle to improved relations with Moscow.

Mr. Gorbachev suggested cooperation with China in space exploration and said this could include Soviet training of Chinese spacemen.

He mentioned a previous Soviet proposal to convene a security conference of Asian and Pacific Ocean countries along the lines of the European Helsinki conference.

The Pacific region was not yet as militarised as Europe, he said. "But militarisation and the escalation of the threat of war in this part of the world are picking up dangerous speed."

Mr. Gorbachev denied that a Soviet proposal to eliminate both superpowers' medium-range missiles in Europe would result merely in the transfer of Soviet SS-20 rockets to Asia.

Moscow was a firm advocate of renouncing the possession of military bases in Asia and the Pacific and of withdrawing troops from other countries' territories, he said.

Mr. Gorbachev inspected the largest port on the country's Pacific coast Monday, the Soviet News Agency TASS said.

It said Mr. Gorbachev familiarised himself with operations at Vostochny, a commercial port that was built with the help of long-term Japanese credits and opened in 1973.

The port is designed to handle the growing volume of international commercial freight generated by development of Soviet Siberian and Far Eastern resources.

Mr. Gorbachev arrived on Friday in Vladivostok, about

7,000 kilometres east of Moscow, and Sunday reviewed the Pacific fleet to mark Soviet Navy Day. In contrast to Vostochny, Vladivostok is a mainly military port.

Meanwhile in Washington a top Soviet official was scheduled to meet U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz for talks intended to move both nations closer to a U.S.-Soviet summit meeting later this year.

The meeting between Mr. Shultz and Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh comes shortly after the formal delivery to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev of new U.S. arms control views.

The new views were spelled out in a private letter to Mr. Gorbachev from President Reagan and respond to sweeping arms control proposals advanced by Mr. Gorbachev in June, U.S. officials said.

The Reagan letter was handed to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze by U.S. Ambassador Arthur Hartman in Moscow on Saturday, said State Department spokeswoman Sondra McCarty.

An administration source said the letter expressed Mr. Reagan's readiness to discuss the key issue of missile defence systems.

Moscow has vehemently opposed Mr. Reagan's "Star Wars" missile defence plans.

But the letter, according to news reports, contains an offer to delay deployment of the system for seven years in exchange for 50 per cent cuts in nuclear missiles and acceptance of missile defence at the end of this period.

Police put down scattered violence in Delhi

NEW DELHI (R) — Riot police put down scattered violence Monday during a general strike called in the Indian capital by rightwing Hindus protesting Sikh extremist violence in Punjab.

Shops and schools were shut as the strike paralysed New Delhi's commercial centres, but government offices and banks stayed open and public transport operated.

The protests were called by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) after Sikh extremists shot dead 14 bus passengers, all Hindus except one, in an attack on Friday.

A police spokesman said a police officer was slightly hurt when a protestor stabbed him in the back with an ice-pick.

The spokesman told Reuters police used bamboo staves at three places in the city to disperse stone-throwing crowds of BJP supporters. A police vehicle and 25 buses were damaged when about 600 people ran riot through two western suburbs, he added.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said six people were injured in a police baton charge at one place.

The violence occurred just outside the suburb of Tilak Nagar where troops enforced a curfew clamped after four people were killed and 60 wounded in Hindu-Sikh riots on Saturday.

The police spokesman said two people were wounded in overnight stabbing attacks elsewhere in the city, but there were no incidents when the curfew in Tilak Nagar was relaxed for an hour Monday morning to allow women and children to buy food.

He said police had arrested 1,050 people since Saturday to prevent fresh clashes and were continuing house-to-house searches for hidden weapons.

Four other towns in northern and central India were also shut Monday by strikes called by militant Hindu groups. PTI said protesters stoned buses in the central Indian city of Indore, where markets, schools and hotels were closed.

A Home Ministry official said no violence had been reported from Agra, site of the famed Taj Mahal, in northern Uttar Pradesh state, or from Gurgaon and Hissar in Hindu-dominated Haryana state bordering Punjab.

He said authorities fearing communal attacks halted bus services from Punjab and Himachal Pradesh states to New Delhi.

Filipino military pledge loyalty to new constitution

MANILA (R) — The 250,000-strong Philippine Armed Forces Monday pledged loyalty to the country's interim constitution in a bid to heal a rift in the government of President Corason Aquino.

In Manila, about 3,000 soldiers led by Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Armed Forces Chief Fidel Ramos took an oath of allegiance to the "freedom constitution" promulgated by Mrs. Aquino when she came to power in February after the fall of Ferdinand Marcos.

All over the country, members of the armed forces were gathering in groups and raising their hands to take the same oath.

Mr. Enrile, who is regarded with suspicion by some of his cabinet colleagues because of his hold over the armed forces and is seen as a potential threat to the Aquino government, agreed to the idea of pledging loyalty to the new constitution to dispel the suspicion about himself and the military.

He said Monday there was a misunderstanding that the troops' loyalty to the constitution was not the same as loyalty to the commander-in-chief, a title held by Mrs. Aquino under her interim constitution.

"That is not true. We are committed to defend the constitution that includes the commander-in-chief whoever that person might be," Mr. Enrile added.

Mr. Enrile, who along with Gen. Ramos led a civilian-backed military revolt against Marcos shortly after the disputed election, said Monday: "The pledge that we have taken this morning should symbolise our unity to our government, to our people and to our commander-in-chief."

"But more so to the unity of the armed forces so that never shall this organisation be fragmented by the machinations and intrigues of those who wish to destroy the republic."

Meanwhile police filed accusations of rebellion Monday against former Foreign Minister Arturo Tolentino and 40 others who tried to overthrow Mrs. Aquino's government.

Justice Minister Neptali Gonzalez told reporters the accusation was filed with the Manila prosecutor who would decide after further investigations whether to ask a court to issue arrest warrants against the coup leaders.

Five serving or retired generals and four former members of parliament were among those named in the complaint. Rebellion charges carry a mandatory death penalty in the Philippines.

Mr. Gonzalez said the government decided to file the accusation because the coup leaders had refused to swear an oath of allegiance to the country in exchange for immunity from prosecution.

Mr. Tolentino, running-mate of Marcos in February's presidential election, had himself sworn in as "acting president" on July 6 and named Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile as his prime minister.

Mr. Enrile declined to join him and the coup bid collapsed in less than 36 hours.

The rebels, who declared loyalty to Marcos, occupied the Manila Hotel for two days backed by several hundred soldiers.

Portugal in 1975, also said they destroyed a bridge near the central city of Huambo and blew up Soviet quarters in Luena.

The blast in Luena, eastern Angola, killed four government guards and wounded a Soviet adviser. At least 14 Angolan soldiers were killed in other attacks between July 20 and 23, UNITA said.

UNITA, accused by the government of relying on South African aid, said its casualties were nine dead and 26 wounded. There was no independent confirmation of the attacks and the Angolan government, which is supported by Cuban and Soviet military advisers, rarely comments on UNITA claims.

Twelve other government soldiers were killed the previous day in fighting around Quinzela, in the northern province of Uige, UNITA said.

The rebels, who have been fighting Angola's Marxist government since the country gained independence from

off an island in the Gulf of Thailand.

Electoral officials said an encouraging 61 per cent of the electorate voted, a 10 per cent increase on the 1983 election. Even in apathetic Bangkok, 37 per cent responded to a government drive to get out the vote.

"What we witnessed was not a victory of a particular party or candidate, but rather a victory of the Thai people as a whole," the English-language Bangkok Post said.

The press noted that the Democrat surge ousted some veteran politicians from once unassailable bastions.

"Democrat burst scatters godfathers," read the headline of the liberal Matichon Daily. Reporting on the fall of four political barons in the provinces, it quoted a policeman as saying: "This is the best news of the elections."

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The blast in Luena, eastern Angola, killed four government guards and wounded a Soviet adviser. At least 14 Angolan soldiers were killed in other attacks between July 20 and 23, UNITA said.

UNITA, accused by the government of relying on South African aid, said its casualties were nine dead and 26 wounded. There was no independent confirmation of the attacks and the Angolan government, which is supported by Cuban and Soviet military advisers, rarely comments on UNITA claims.

Twelve other government soldiers were killed the previous day in fighting around Quinzela, in the northern province of Uige, UNITA said.

The rebels, who have been fighting Angola's Marxist government since the country gained independence from

off an island in the Gulf of Thailand.

Electoral officials said an encouraging 61 per cent of the electorate voted, a 10 per cent increase on the 1983 election. Even in apathetic Bangkok, 37 per cent responded to a government drive to get out the vote.

"What we witnessed was not a victory of a particular party or candidate, but rather a victory of the Thai people as a whole," the English-language Bangkok Post said.

The press noted that the Democrat surge ousted some veteran politicians from once unassailable bastions.

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COLUMN

Police hunt tiger roaming in Pennsylvania

NICHOLSON, Pennsylvania (AP) — State police and a zoologist armed with rifles, nets and a tranquilizer gun searched by land and air for a tiger on the loose and authorities advised residents to keep their children inside. The cat, first spotted by a Nicholson resident early Sunday morning, was believed to be roaming the woods of Susquehanna and Wyoming counties in north eastern Pennsylvania. Authorities did not know where the tiger came from, but were investigating whether it escaped from a nearby travelling circus, said state police Cpl. Richard Ambrosi. "It's a small tiger, about 200 to 300 pounds (91-136 kg)," said police dispatcher Wally Jesse. "We spotted it with the helicopter...but quickly lost it because there's so much woods."

Japan's population reaches 120.8 million

TOKYO (AP) — Japan has recorded its second lowest postwar population growth rate in a one-year period, the Ministry of Home Affairs announced Monday. The ministry said the population rose 0.59 per cent in the 12 months ending March of this year. The previous year's rate was 0.58 per cent, the ministry said. The population was 120.8 million at the end of March, with 59.5 million males and 61.3 million females, the report said. Some 45 per cent of Japan's entire population lives in three metropolitan areas — Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya.

2 charged with lacing coffee with AIDS

LAKE BUTLER, Florida (AP) — Two prison inmates accused of putting blood serum from an AIDS patient in the coffee of a prison officer have been charged with conspiracy to murder. Lee Adams Dunn and Robert J. Grimmer were charged Friday, said Assistant State Attorney Jon Phillips. Grimmer gave the serum to a third inmate and asked him to try to kill someone with it, authorities say. If convicted of the conspiracy charge, the inmates could be sentenced to terms of life in prison. Department of Corrections officials learned of the scheme last month when a third inmate notified them. His name has been withheld. Robert Effitt, the 49-year-old officer whose coffee may have been contaminated, is undergoing monthly tests for the deadly virus. Dunn, 46, worked as an orderly in a laboratory at the prison hospital. Blood serum and other samples are kept in a refrigerator in the lab, officials said.

U.S. congressmen score low in quiz

BALTIMORE (AP) — Two members of Congress and the governor of Maryland were among candidates for the U.S. Senate who scored poorly on a five-question quiz on current events. Neither Michael Barnes nor Barbara Mikulski, both Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives, could identify the leader of the African National Congress or name both the Israeli prime minister and his designated successor. The quiz was given by television station WIZ to the 17 candidates seeking to replace retiring Republican Senator Charles Mathias. The top score went to Republican Linda Chavez, a former aide to Ronald Reagan, who answered four answers correctly. Barnes and Ms. Mikulski both answered one correctly, and Maryland Governor Harry Hughes was right on two of the questions. The candidates were not given a chance to study before the quiz. On the question of who heads the ANC, the station counted as correct either jailed leader Nelson Mandela or exiled President Oliver Tambo. Ms. Mikulski named Jonas Savimbi, leader of the guerrilla movement fighting the government of Angola — which is backed by South Africa. When asked to identify Israel's prime minister, Barnes correctly noted that leaders of two major parties in the country's coalition government alternate in the top post. But he incorrectly identified Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir as the current prime minister. Ms. Mikulski knew that Shimon Peres was prime minister, but she did not know that Shamir will succeed Peres in October.

Soviet troop pullout from Afghanistan welcomed

ISLAMABAD (R) — The Soviet announcement Monday of a limited troop withdrawal from Afghanistan represents a positive gesture on the eve of renewed fresh talks on an Afghan peace settlement, Western diplomats said.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, speaking in Vladivostok, said three anti-aircraft regiments, two motorised rifle regiments and one armoured regiment would return to the Soviet Union by the end of the year.

Moscow sent troops into Afghanistan in 1979 to back the fledgling Communist government. There are now an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops supporting Kabul in its seven-year-old war against Western-backed Afghan guerrillas.

The diplomats said Mr. Gorbachev's announcement appeared to be designed to

strengthen Kabul's position in its four-year-old indirect peace talks with Pakistan in Geneva.

The United Nations-sponsored talks, which have so far yielded no results, resume on Wednesday.

Pakistan which allows the Afghan rebels to operate from its territory maintains that a complete Soviet pullout should be carried out in three to four months. Afghanistan is reported to have proposed four years for the withdrawal.

"It appears to be a PR (public relations) move. But it also suggests that Moscow is prepared, at least in principle, to respond to international pressure for a withdrawal," one diplomat said.

The envoys, recalling similar announcements from Moscow, held out the possibility that Monday's news could eventually be verified as a rotation, rather than a reduction, of troops.

Ortega takes case against U.S. to Security Council

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua will go before the United Nations Security Council Tuesday in a further bid to end Washington's support for anti-Sandinista rebels, Nicaraguan diplomats said.

They said President Daniel Ortega would use an address to the 15-nation body to warn of what he regards as new threats to peace in Central America posed by United States congressional approval of \$100 million in aid to rebels fighting to topple his left-wing government.

"It's an extremely dangerous situation," said Augusto Zamora, international legal adviser to the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry. "The aid opens the door for a much wider conflict in Central America."

The World Court, a U.N. body based in The Hague, ruled on June 27 that U.S. aid for the rebels, commonly called contras, was illegal and that the United States should pay compensation to Nicaragua for damage caused by military attacks.

The United States rejected the verdict, saying the court had no jurisdiction in the case.

The diplomats said Nicaragua would submit a resolution calling for observance of the ruling despite expectations that the United States will use its veto to block any such motion.

If the resolution is defeated in the Security Council, Nicaragua will present it before the General Assembly of the United Nations, according to the diplomats.

Aide rejects report of Queen-Thatcher rift

LONDON (R) — A top aide of Queen Elizabeth II intervened publicly Monday in a controversy over relations between the monarch and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher by rejecting a report that there was a rift between them.

The queen's private secretary, Sir William Heseltine, said in a letter to The Times that the report in its sister newspaper, The Sunday Times, was "entirely without foundation."

He confirmed that The Sunday Times had spoken to a Buckingham Palace official but said the official had not been in a position to state the queen's views.

Heseltine said the queen had constitutional duties to counsel her government, act on the advice of her ministers and to treat her communications with the prime minister as confidential.

"After 34 years of unvarying adherence to these constitutional principles it is preposterous to suggest that Her Majesty might suddenly depart from them. No sensible person would give a moment's credence to such a proposition," he wrote.

On July 20 The Sunday Times quoted high-level palace sources as saying the queen was dismayed by a wide range of Mrs. Thatcher's policies and believed the prime minister to have an "uncaring, confrontational and socially divisive approach."

Heseltine said the paper had spoken to Royal Press Secretary Michael Shea but that its report

did not match the conversations. Shea did not know the queen's view on government policy and The Sunday Times report purporting to reflect her opinions was "entirely without foundation," Heseltine said.

The report said the queen, who is also head of the Commonwealth, was alarmed that Mrs. Thatcher's opposition to full economic sanctions against South Africa could lead to the breakup of the 49-nation organisation.

It added that the queen believed Mrs. Thatcher's Conservative government lacked compassion and had misgivings about the prime minister's handling of the 1984-85 miners' strike and her decision to let the United States launch attacks on Libya from British bases last April.

Heseltine said the palace had not attempted to stop publication of the report, which The Sunday Times said was the result of unprecedented palace briefings, after parts were read over to Shea.

"It is not difficult to imagine the reaction to a request that the articles should be withdrawn," Heseltine said.

Sunday Times Editor Andrew Neil commented: "There is no doubt whatever that the palace at the highest level was fully aware that The Sunday Times was about to publish a major story of major constitutional importance."

"This letter confirms that. It also confirms that no attempt was made to stop the story."

Weathermen may find way to warn pilots of windshear

WASHINGTON (AP) — Weathermen may be able to give pilots enough warning to halt landing or takeoff attempts that are endangered by sudden windshear, a violent phenomenon blamed for more than 500 deaths in airplane accidents.

With correct instruments and training, airport tower personnel might be able to give aircraft pilots as much as two minutes of advance warning, according to Alfred J. Bedard, Jr. of the Environmental Research Laboratories in Boulder, Colorado.

That warning could give them time to halt a landing or takeoff attempt, the moments during which airplanes are most vulnerable, he said last week.

The National Transportation Safety Board has cited microbursts — the most powerful form of wind shear — as the cause of 17 aircraft accidents in the last 15 years, with 577 fatalities.

Bedard's team from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is conducting experiments in Colorado, seeking to confirm earlier findings that conditions leading to microbursts can be recognised in advance. A second study is under way in Huntsville,

Alabama, funded by the National Science Foundation.

Microbursts have drawn considerable attention in recent years, after being blamed in some major airline disasters.

These included the Aug. 2, 1985 Delta Airlines crash near Dallas that claimed 133 lives and the Pan American crash in New Orleans on July 9, 1982, in which 154 died.

On Aug. 1, 1983, U.S. President Ronald Reagan barely missed an encounter with a powerful microburst at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington.

A microburst was felt at the base only six minutes after his executive jet landed.

Researchers are using a variety of instruments to measure microbursts, which are strong downdrafts of air, a part of the circulation involved with thunderstorms, which involve warm moist air rising to form clouds. The microburst, or downdraft, returns that air to the ground, often in a small concentrated area.

A microburst is like an avalanche of air heading toward the earth with great force. When it strikes the ground it spreads out in all directions.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHAHAT
1986 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 983 ♠ Q102 ♠ A75 ♠ K65
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?
- Q.2 — As South, vulnerable, you hold: